

Ghali briefs French president

PARIS (R) — Egyptian Foreign Minister Boutros Ghali said Friday he had discussed with President Francois Mitterrand last month's visit to Cairo by Palestinian leader Yasser Arafat. He said they reviewed the latest Middle East developments in the wake of Mr. Arafat's talks with Egyptian President Hosni Mubarak last month. The minister said he had also delivered a message to Mr. Mitterrand from President Mubarak but declined to reveal its contents. Mr. Ghali said he was due to meet French External Relations Minister Claude Cheysson later Friday to discuss better coordination between French and Egyptian "diplomatic action within the (U.N.) Security Council."

Earlier story on page 2

Jordan Times

An independent political daily published by the Press Foundation
"مستقلة سياسية يومية" مؤسسة الصحافة الأردنية "الرأي"
جوردان تايمز نيوز فاونديشن

Egypt backs PLO protest at U.N.

UNITED NATIONS (R) — A protest from the Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO) to the Security Council about Israeli actions in the occupied territories was published Friday as a United Nations document at the request of Egypt. It was the first time in more than five years that Egypt had made such a request on behalf of the PLO. Their relations declined badly after the 1979 treaty between Egypt and Israel. But they appear to have been restored since President Hosni Mubarak received Yasser Arafat in Cairo last month after the PLO chairman was forced from the besieged Lebanese city of Tripoli. Because the PLO has observer status at the U.N., its letters can be circulated as official documents only if sponsored by a member of the world organisation. Egypt is at present on the Security Council.

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Hussein, Hassan condole families of air crash victims

AMMAN (Petra) — His Majesty King Hussein Thursday delegated the governor of Irbid and the acting governor of Kerak to convey His Majesty's condolences to the families of the soldiers killed in the Jordanian Armed Forces transport plane crash. His Royal Highness Crown Prince Hassan also delegated the assistant governor of Amman as well as the district governors of Ajloun, Zarqa and Tafleh to convey the Crown Prince's condolences to the families. The plane crashed Monday in the Qatana area, some 80 kilometres south of Amman, due to a technical failure, killing 13 military personnel on board.

New committee to take over Zarqa

ZARQA (Petra) — Minister of Municipal and Rural Affairs and the Environment Hassan Al Momani has decided to dissolve the Zarqa Municipal Committee and to appoint a new committee with Zarqa District Governor Salem Al Qdahi as its chairman. The new committee will replace the old one which was chaired by Dr. Nofan Al Hmoud who resigned his post last Wednesday citing administrative and financial reasons affecting the smooth running of municipal services in Zarqa.

Lebanon urges U.N. to restrain Israel

UNITED NATIONS (R) — Lebanon has protested to the United Nations over the recent Israeli raid on targets near Baalbek in eastern Lebanon, in which more than 100 people were killed and 400 wounded. In a letter to Secretary-General Javier Perez de Cuellar, Lebanese U.N. Representative Rashid Fakhoury asked that "appropriate measures be taken to prevent the recurrence of such Israeli practices" but did not request any specific action. Related stories on page 2

Israel bars journalist from coming to Jordan

TEL AVIV (R) — Israeli authorities in the occupied Arab West Bank Friday turned down a request by a Palestinian journalist to cross into Jordan to participate in a West German television programme. The journalist, Raymond Tawil, who has frequently travelled abroad to appear on behalf of the Palestinians, told reporters he regretted the action. The programme will deal with the Palestine problem and will be broadcast from Jordan on Monday.

Wanted Nigerian flees to London

LAGOS (R) — Former Nigerian Transport Minister Umaru Dikko, declared a wanted man by the new military government, has fled to Britain, informed sources said Friday. One of Mr. Dikko's many responsibilities in the government was the supervision of rice imports. Mr. Dikko, one of ousted President Shugu Shagari's closest political associates, telephoned friends from London Thursday, the sources said. Sources said it was not known if Mr. Dikko had escaped the country.

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King recalls Lower House of Parliament

By Elia Nasrallah
Jordan Times Staff Writer

AMMAN — Parliamentary life in Jordan will resume Monday when the Lower House of Parliament will hold its first session after a decade-long absence. The reconvening of parliament, in response to a royal decree issued Thursday, was preceded by a flurry of wide scale political activities that involved the Royal Court, the cabinet, the National Consultative Council (NCC) and other political circles, and government departments, with a view to laying down the basis for the coming stage.

The 60-member house was suspended by His Majesty King Hussein in 1974 after the Arab states recognised the Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO) as the sole legitimate representative of the Palestinian people. Half the deputies came from the West Bank in the last elections held shortly before Israel occupied the area in 1967, and the King felt representation of the Palestinians in the occupied territories and elsewhere should be left to the PLO.

Move has nothing to do with representation of West Bank Palestinians

Recall of parliament mainly aims at E. Bank elections, senior official says

By Rami G. Khoury
Special to the Jordan Times

AMMAN — An authoritative Jordanian official source has explained that the reconvening of the Jordanian parliament aims to amend the constitution to allow for a resumption of parliamentary elections only in the five governorates of the East Bank. The old parliament that reconvenes here Monday will revise article 73 of the constitution to permit general elections to be held only in the East Bank, thereby getting around the present constitutional requirement that general elections for the 60-member Lower House of Parliament take place simultaneously in the five East Bank and 3 West Bank governorates. Such a move would allow parliamentary life to resume in the East Bank, the source said, while maintaining Jordan's legal links with, and technical responsibility for, the West Bank in the eyes of international law. "We cannot simply rewrite the constitution to hold elections in the East Bank and forget about our West Bank responsibility," the source also explained that the reconvened parliament could

ordnance with article 88 of the constitution.

As to the eight vacant seats of East Bankers in the house, by-elections are expected to be held in their respective constituencies to fill them after the parliament has passed the necessary constitutional amendment. The house is also expected to introduce amendments to the present election law whereby new formations of constituencies will be announced in the light of the current circumstances.

The last elections held in Jordan were on April 15, 1967 and the house's mandate ended in 1971 but no new elections were held since then. It was on Nov. 26, 1974 when the Arab summit in Rabat passed a resolution considering the PLO the sole and legitimate representative of the Palestinian people. The house was then called to meet in an emergency session during which an amendment to the constitution was introduced, empowering the King to postpone elections under compelling circumstances and

either appoint new representatives to fill the 16 vacant seats (8 from each bank), or hold by-elections in the East Bank to fill its eight empty seats.

Then the reconvened old parliament could either stay in power for a period of time, or it could be dissolved, after amending the constitution, and open the way for general elections in the East Bank. After general elections were held, the source said, the new members of the Lower House could either appoint the 30 members to represent the West Bank, or special arrangements might be made for West Bank representation, such as keeping the present 22 West Bank representatives in the new parliament. The legal niceties of the West Bank's representation in the parliament after elections are held in the East Bank will have to be discussed by the reconvened parliament, in consultation with the government, the source explained.

Asked about whether reconvening the parliament would revive the old problem of whether West Bank representation in the Jordanian parliament would contravene the 1974 Rabat Arab



King Hussein of Jordan, who has recalled the Lower House of Parliament, is seen here in a recent photograph.

summit decision recognising the Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO) as the sole legitimate representative of the Palestinians, the source suggested that normal parliamentary life in the East Bank could not be suspended forever pending a resolution of the Palestine issue.

"This move should not be misinterpreted as anything other than a mechanism to make constitutional amendments that would allow political life to resume in the East Bank, while the West Bank remains under occupation though legally tied to the East Bank according to international law. This is a means to hold elections in the East Bank without formally giving up Jordanian ties with the West Bank."

This move has nothing to do with the representation of the Palestinians of the West Bank. It is purely an East Bank development, and indicates that we in Jordan feel that it is not realistic to expect our own political development to be forever frozen because of lack of progress on resolving the Palestinian issue," the source said.

Syria criticises recall of parliament

DAMASCUS (R) — Syria Friday attacked Jordan's decision to recall the parliament it suspended a decade ago, saying it showed Jordan did not recognise the existence of a Palestinian state. The Damascus daily newspaper Al Baath, organ of the ruling Baath Party, saw the move as "undermining Jordan's non-recognition of the existence of a Palestinian state or people."

The Democratic Front for the Liberation of Palestine (DFLP) saw the move as a departure from the Rabat Arab summit of 1974 which recognised the PLO as the sole legitimate representative of the Palestinian people.

Paris links explosions to 'Carlos'

PARIS (R) — The international terrorist "Carlos" has been identified as the author of a letter claiming responsibility for the twin new year's eve bomb attacks in southern France, a French Interior Ministry spokesman said here Friday. The letter received in Berlin was signed by the "Arab Armed Struggle Organisation" but West German experts authenticated the handwriting as being that of Carlos — real name Illich Ramirez Sanchez. The experts had samples of handwriting already identified by means of fingerprints

Hussein thanks NCC members

AMMAN — His Majesty the King Thursday sent a letter to National Consultative Council Speaker Suleiman Arar in which he expressed his appreciation to the Council members for their efforts and their services over the past six years. In his letter, King Hussein reaffirmed that the Council was meant to be a consultative forum where a dialogue over national

issues could take place and where notable public figures could help the government to shoulder its responsibilities.

King Hussein stressed that the council was essentially a temporary formula but not an alternative to parliament which, he said, is a basic cornerstone in Jordan's democratic life. He said that the country's constitution requires from us now to return to par-

liamentary life and allow the legislative authorities to resume their powers in accordance with the provisions of the constitution. The King stressed that every citizen should have a share in shouldering responsibility and in serving the nation's higher interests.

NCC reviews its performance over the years, page 3

PLO leaders intensify talks

TUNIS (Agencies) — Intensified talks were continuing Friday here among the various Palestinian factions after the mainstream faction, Fatah, Central Committee issued a statement describing Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO) Chairman Yasser Arafat's recent meeting in Cairo with Egyptian President Hosni Mubarak as an "individualist move" and an "organisational error."

The statement rejected all peace initiatives that "do not guarantee the Palestinian people's right to return to their homeland, self-determination and the setting up of an independent Palestinian state in the Israeli-occupied territories."

Political observers interpreted the reference as a rejection of U.S. President Reagan's peace initiative of September 1982.

The statement also pledged an "escalation" of the armed struggle against Israel, as part of the movement's new strategy following Mr. Arafat's forced evacuation from Tripoli, Lebanon, last month.

Mr. Arafat's surprise meeting with Mr. Mubarak has been seen as a signal that he would prefer to pursue a diplomatic offensive against Israel.

Mr. Arafat cleared his first hurdle when the Fatah Central Committee approved his policy of closer relations with Jordan and Egypt which favour a negotiated settlement of the Middle East conflict.

Meanwhile, Palestinian sources said the PLO Executive Committee was meeting here.

Although 10 of the 14 Executive Committee members are in Tunis, it was not clear Friday night whether it was meeting officially, the sources said.

One reason for the uncertainty could be that nine members must take part for a meeting to be valid, they said. It was not clear if all the 11 were prepared to take part in meetings without setting conditions.

Diplomatic sources said a key point was whether the representative of Nayef Hawameh of the Democratic Front for the Liberation of Palestine (DFLP), Yasser Abd Rabbo, was taking part in the talks.

One Palestinian source said a meeting was being held Friday night, but Mr. Rabbo was not there. Although nine members were at the meeting it was not known if they were talking officially or informally, the source said.

The Popular Front for the Liberation of Palestine (PFLP) of George Habash, who last month demanded Mr. Arafat's dismissal because of the Mubarak meeting, did not send its main representative.

Two PLO factions — the pro-Syrian Saika and the pro-Libyan PFLP-General Command led by Ahmad Jibril — are boycotting the meeting while a leading independent, Abu Mayyar, is also absent, the sources said.

Senior officers from the PFLP-GC and the pro-Syrian Popular Front of Palestinian struggle were expelled, along with Colonel Abu Musa, the leader of the anti-Arafat rebellion within Fatah, by Palestinian Supreme Military Council this week.

Bourguiba calls off food price hike

TUNIS (R) — President Habib Bourguiba said Friday he had cancelled food price rises which sparked bloody riots this week and his announcement brought thousands of joyful, flag-waving Tunisians onto the streets of the capital.

Youths fraternised with soldiers, clambering over the tanks which had guarded strategic points in Tunis since a state of emergency was proclaimed on Tuesday.

Mr. Bourguiba said in a brief television address that increases in

prices of bread, pasta and semolina, used for the traditional dish of couscous, were cancelled. There would be increases on non-essential products such as alcoholic drinks instead, he said.

Government officials have said more than 50 people died and hundreds were injured in a week of rioting across Tunisia.

President Bourguiba, addressing the nation for the first time since the riots, said he had told the government to rewrite the state budget to eliminate the food price

measures.

The conference, an outgrowth of the 1975 Helsinki accords and a meeting in Madrid last year, is to review proposals to reduce the risk of conventional war.

Mr. Reagan said the presence of Mr. Shultz, Mr. Gromyko and foreign ministers from Europe and Canada in Stockholm "will underline the importance the West attaches to... a productive East-West dialogue."

Mr. Goodby told reporters that "signals from the East are relatively positive" about the prospects for an agreement on confidence and security building measures.

Measures under study include advance notification by NATO and the Warsaw Pact of military manoeuvres and improvements in communications, such as the "hot line" link between the White House and the Kremlin.

The meeting between Mr. Shultz and Mr. Gromyko will be the first high-level U.S.-Soviet contact since the Kremlin suspended strategic nuclear arms talks with Washington on Dec. 8.

Two weeks earlier, the Soviet Union walked out of separate talks on limiting medium-range nuclear missiles because of the arrival in Europe of U.S. cruise and Pershing 2 missiles being deployed by NATO.

Reagan wants 'productive' arms talks

WASHINGTON (R) — President Reagan said Friday he backed efforts to improve relations with the Soviet Union and called for progress in negotiations with Moscow on ways to reduce the risk of a surprise attack.

He called for a productive East-West dialogue at a 35-nation conference opening on Jan. 17 in Stockholm, where Secretary of State George Shultz and Foreign Minister Andrei Gromyko plan to discuss a deep chill in U.S.-Soviet relations.

Mr. Reagan made the call in a statement after conferring with James Goodby, chief of the U.S. delegation to the conference on confidence and security building

measures.

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Baalbek mourns over victims of devastating Israeli air raids

BEIRUT (R) — Shops, offices and schools in the northeastern Lebanese town of Baalbek were closed Thursday by a protest strike called to mourn at least 100 people killed in devastating Israeli air raids there Wednesday.

Israel said the raids were aimed at Shiite Muslim guerrilla bases, but the International Red Cross in Beirut said the dead and some 400 wounded were mostly civilians. The planes hit a school, a mosque, a sheep market and the homes of 50 Palestinian families as well as buildings used by the Iranian-backed "Islamic Amal Movement," the Shiite militia which controls the area alongside Syrian regular troops.

Rescue teams were still digging bodies out of the rubble Thursday and state-run Beirut Radio said the casualty toll was expected to rise.

All telephone lines with Baalbek and the Bekaa Valley to the south have been down for months and fresh information was difficult to obtain. But Beirut newspapers Thursday printed photographs of the damage inflicted on the historic town and nearby villages.

Concrete buildings were reduced to piles of rubble and scores of burnt-out cars littered the streets at the southern entrance to Baalbek. One picture showed a crater 10 metres (33 feet) deep and five metres (16 feet) across in the middle of a road. Thursday's strike, called by the pro-Syrian opposition coalition known as the "National Salvation Front," was

observed as far south as the town of Shtoura, 45 kilometres from Baalbek, security sources said.

Israel says "Islamic Amal" organised the suicide bombings on U.S. and French military bases in Beirut on Oct. 23 and on an Israeli base in the southern port of Tyre on Nov. 4. The attacks killed 241 U.S. servicemen, 50 French soldiers and 24 Israelis.

Hussein Moussawi, a former schoolmaster who runs "Islamic Amal," said his group had nothing to do with the attacks but hoped to take part in such operations in future. Lebanese Muslim leaders and leftist newspapers said they were outraged by the ferocity of the Israeli raids, the most deadly by Israel in Lebanon since the 1982 invasion.

Some, including Nabih Berri of the mainstream Shiite militia Amal, vowed that the underground resistance in South Lebanon would retaliate against Israeli occupation forces.

In the first anti-Israeli operation since the raids, one Israeli soldier was wounded Thursday morning when a bomb went off on a main road east of the southern port of Sidon. Lebanese security sources said.

Israeli soldiers raked the area with small arms fire, wounding two Lebanese civilians, they added. Another Lebanese civilian was wounded in Sidon when an Israeli soldier in a jeep fired his rifle accidentally, they said.

In Beirut, one Lebanese army soldier was killed in shelling at Khaldé township, just south of the airport. Beirut Radio said. Right-wing Falangist radio said the shells came from the mainly Druze Progressive Socialist Party (PSP), the anti-government militia in the mountains above Khaldé.

PSP officials, speaking from the mountains by telephone, said the army shelled a string of Druze villages for several hours. The villages are largely deserted and there were no casualties, they said.

Washington optimistic about peace in Lebanon

WASHINGTON (R) — Reagan administration officials said Thursday they believed Syria and Israel would approve a new Lebanese security plan that could open the door to a reduction of U.S. and other foreign troops in Beirut.

Syrian acceptance of the plan being drawn up by Lebanese President Amin Gemayel would mark a significant policy shift by Syrian President Hafez Al Assad, the officials said.

Mr. Assad has been accused by the United States of blocking progress towards peace in Lebanon and supporting commandos who killed 241 U.S. military personnel in an explosion at the Marine headquarters outside Beirut last October.

The new, comprehensive security plan is designed to bring a permanent end to the fighting among Lebanon's warring factions and expand Mr. Gemayel's authority, now limited largely to Beirut, to large areas not occupied by Syrian and Israeli troops.

Acceptance of the plan by Lebanon's Christians and Muslims and approval by Syria and Israel would permit reductions and redeployment of U.S., French, British and Italian troops serving with the Multinational Force in Beirut.

Mr. Gemayel, however, has been pressing for a continued high-visibility presence of the force. "Everything is looking good and seems to be falling into place," a senior White House official said.

The official, who asked not to be identified, said the Reagan administration believed Syrian and Israeli approval of the Gemayel plan would be forthcoming soon.

Such a move would ease pressure on President Reagan during the 1984 presidential election campaign to reduce U.S. troops in Beirut or move them to less exposed positions.

White House spokesman Larry Speakes said indications were that the Lebanese government "is actively seeking to expand its control over its own territory."

No hostility towards Syria.

Mr. Speakes refused further comment and other officials said the White House was adopting a low-key approach because it wants Mr. Gemayel to act without any appearance of U.S. pressure. Acceptance of the security plan by Syria would further a new climate of goodwill towards the Damascus government that Mr. Reagan signalled Wednesday at a meeting with Reverend Jesse Jackson, a civil rights leader and a candidate for the 1984 Democratic presidential nomination.

Rev. Jackson's mission to Damascus secured the release of navy Lieutenant Robert Goodman, held captive there after being shot down on Dec. 4 by Syrian anti-aircraft fire while on a bombing mission in Lebanon on Dec. 4.

Iraq threatens to hit targets in Iran

BAGHDAD (R) — Iraqi President Saddam Hussein said Friday his forces would hit Iran's vital interests if Iran attacked Iraqi territory and warned foreign merchant ships to stay away from the head of the Gulf.

In an army day speech, Mr. Hussein said his country now possessed sophisticated weapons to "strike at selected targets in Iran," Iraq's enemy in the 40-month-old war.

Any new military assault on our armed forces which are defending our borders will be an additional justification for us to take deterrent action and punish this Iranian regime which insists on continuing the war and endangers stability and security in the region," the Iraqi leader declared.

He also warned foreign merchant vessels against trying to reach Iranian ports in the Gulf, where several foreign ships have reportedly been damaged in Iraqi attacks.

"Iraq will not be responsible for any losses that may be incurred by parties which ignore these warnings," he said.

In mid-1982, Iraq declared the north-western part of the Gulf "a zone of military operations" and is since reported to have attacked

foreign ships there. In the past two months alone, Iraq has said it "destroyed" more than 20 "enemy naval targets" in the Gulf, usually without specifying the targets.

Mr. Hussein said his army now had access to weapons and equipment that would enable it to strike at "selected targets and deal heavy blows to the ambitious enemy."

He was not specific about the new weapons, Iraq last year took delivery of French-made Super Etendard fighter-bombers capable of firing deadly Exocet missiles.

There have been unconfirmed reports that Iraq may have used Exocets against targets in the Gulf but military sources in the Gulf say these could have been fired from helicopters.

Iran has launched several offensives against Iraq since the middle of 1982.

Appealing for the support of Arab nations in his war against Iran, Mr. Hussein charged that Iran was not fighting Iraq alone but also the entire Arab World. He called for Arab solidarity to thwart "Iranian ambitions and Tehran's subversive attempts."

This was seen here as a reference to last month's bombings in Kuwait, which borders on Iraq and supports it in the war, including attacks on the U.S. and French embassies.

Iraq blamed Iran for the bombings and immediately launched missile attacks on "selected targets" in Iranian towns.

The Iraqi president also appealed to other Arab countries to boost their support for the Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO) against what he termed "threats to Palestinian legality."

"The whole Arab Nation is requested today to render material and moral support to the Palestinian people to help them strengthen their unity and solidarity around the PLO and its legal leadership," he said.

"If Palestinian legality is threatened by blackmail... and force, nobody will be safe from these evils in the future," he added.

"Some Arab circles are practicing blackmail and threats, ignoring the basis of solidarity and collective Arab resolutions."

"In this regard, the PLO has been exposed to the most serious conspiracy since its foundation, a conspiracy to plunder its political will and for its physical liquidation," the Iraqi president stated.

Israel denies striking civilian targets

TEL AVIV (R) — Israel Thursday denied its planes had struck at civilian targets in Lebanon and said Wednesday's heavy air raids were part of its war against terrorism.

In an unusual step, the military spokesman issued a special statement following Beirut reports that scores of civilians died when Israeli jets struck near the northern town of Baalbek.

The statement identified the targets, their location and specifically denied allegations the raids were aimed at a United Nations-run school.

The Israeli announcement of Wednesday's air strikes followed the usual brief pattern, referring to "terrorist targets," accurate hits and adding all planes returned safely.

On Thursday the army issued more details in response, it said, to

allegations that 100 civilians had been killed after a U.N.-run school was bombed.

It said the raids, which it described as surgical, were aimed at "two isolated terrorist installations outside the built-up area of Baalbek."

One target was a former Lebanese gendarmerie camp, one and a half kilometres southwest of Baalbek, which it said Shiite commandos were using as a training base and headquarters.

The other target was a former hotel about five kilometres south of the town, which commandos were using as a training and logistics base, the statement said.

It was from these bases and others like them that commandos launched suicide car bomb attacks on U.S., French and Israeli army bases in Lebanon late last year, the statement said.

The army's statement recalled that some 400 men — American, French, Lebanese, Palestinian and Israeli — were killed in the car bombings.

At the time of the attack on an Israeli base in Tyre last November, Israel vowed it would hit back hard at the commandos responsible.

It subsequently blamed an Iranian-backed Shiite group led by Hussein Moussawi which uses buildings in the Baalbek area.

The army also released a series of aerial photographs which it said showed one of Wednesday's targets, the former hotel, taken before, during and after the air strike. The raid appeared to have inflicted heavy damage.

The statement specifically denied that Wednesday's attacks had been aimed at a United Nations-run school.

Thatcher urges more U.N. role in Lebanon

LONDON (R) — Britain wants U.N. forces in Lebanon to take on an expanded role, ready to fill any vacuum left by a future withdrawal of the Multinational Force, Prime Minister Margaret Thatcher said.

Interviewed on British Television, she spoke of fears that "terrible slaughter" could follow if the four-nation force left without making alternative arrangements to keep the peace.

"We can't just come out of the Beirut area and leave a vacuum there," she said.

"Before we leave I think we've got to make alternative arrangements, particularly in the Beirut area, and the obvious thing is to get a better role, an expanded role, for the United Nations forces," she told the interviewer.

Britain has 400 men in Beirut alongside almost 6,000 French, Italian and United States troops, and pressure for a pullout has grown recently in all four countries.

"Remember how terrible it was before the international force went in. If there was terrible slaughter again we should all feel very, very guilty if we hadn't made alternative arrangements."

Recent official statements on the role of British troops in Lebanon have said they would stay as long as they played a useful role, but in Wednesday's interview Mrs. Thatcher made it clear she had been looking at the alternatives for months.

"For quite some time we've been trying to get an expanded role for United Nations forces," she said.

Israeli Labour Party gains in poll

TEL AVIV (R) — Israel's opposition Labour Party would beat the ruling right-wing Likud Party and win almost half the parliament seats if a general election were held now, according to an opinion poll published Friday.

The poll, conducted for the afternoon daily Nativ by the Modlin Haezrahi organisation, showed that Labour would take 57 of the 120 seats, while Prime Minister Yitzhak Shamir's Likud would win 41.

The Likud took 48 seats to Labour's in the 1981 elections.

The poll, carried out late last month, was the second in two months to show gains for Labour over the Likud. The pollsters said the main reason for the switch appeared to be the continuing depressed economy.

Sofia: U.S., Israel plan to attack Syria

VIENNA (R) — The Bulgarian army newspaper Friday accused the United States and Israel of preparing an attack on Syria and said Washington was building up its military presence near the southern border with the Soviet Union.

The commentary in Narodna Armia, reported by the official BTA news agency, praised what it

called Syria's "staunch, consistent stand" which it said was "frustrating plots for Lebanon's final conversion into a U.S.-Israeli protectorate."

Bulgaria is Moscow's most loyal ally in Eastern Europe and diplomatic observers in Vienna said the statement could be seen partly as a reminder to Syria that it should

keep faith with its allies and not compromise with the Americans.

They noted that it was issued just three days after Syria released an American aircraft pilot shot down by Syrian forces in Lebanon, after which President Reagan offered to talk with Syrian President Hafez Al Assad.

TV & RADIO	
JORDAN TELEVISION	
17:30	Koran
17:40	Cartoons
18:05	Children Programme
18:15	The Family
18:20	Programme Review
19:30	Local Programme
20:00	News in Arabic
20:30	Arabic Series
21:30	Arabic Play
22:15	Arabic Play
23:00	Arabic Play
23:30	Arabic Play
FOREIGN CHANNEL	
18:00	French Programme
19:00	News in French
19:30	News in Hebrew
20:30	M.A.S.H.
11:00	Portrait of power — Eisenhower
21:30	Saturday Variety Show
22:00	News in English
22:15	Feature Film: Destiny of a Woman — Anthony Quinn, Mike Farrell
RADIO JORDAN	
555 KHz, AM, 9.9 MHz, FM	100% purity on 1160 KHz, 511
07:00	Light Music
07:30	News
08:00	Morning Show
08:30	News Summary
09:00	Morning Show
10:00	News Summary
11:00	News Summary
11:30	Pop Session
12:00	News Summary
12:30	Pop Session
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16:30	Instrumentals
17:00	Old Favourites
17:30	Special Feature
18:00	Music
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19:30	News
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20:30	Good Old Days
21:00	Just A Minute

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Jordan Archaeological Museum. Has an excellent collection of the antiquities of Jordan. Jabel Al Qafza (Chalced Hill). Opening hours: 9.00 a.m. — 5.00 p.m. (Fridays and official holidays (11.00 a.m. — 4.00 p.m.). Closed Tuesdays.	
Jordan National Gallery. Contains a collection of paintings, ceramics, and sculptures by contemporary Islamic artists from most of the Muslim countries and a collection of paintings by 19th Century orientalist artists. Muzium, Jabel Lweibidh. Opening hours: 11.00 a.m. — 1.30 p.m. and 3.30 p.m. — 6.00 p.m. Closed Tuesdays. Tel. 36128.	
Martyrs' Memorial (Military Museum). Collection of military memorabilia dating from the Arab Revolt of 1916. Sports City, Amman. Opening: 9 a.m. — 4 p.m. Closed Saturdays. Tel. 664240.	
Popular Life of Jordan Museum. (100 to 150 year old items such as costumes,	
CHURCHES	
St. Joseph Church (Roman Catholic). Jabel Amman, tel. 24500.	
Church of the Annunciation (Roman Catholic). Jabel Lweibidh, 37430.	
De la Salle Church (Roman Catholic). Jabel Amman, 661737.	
Church of the Annunciation (Greek Orthodox). Abdali, 23541.	
Anglican Church (Church of the Redeemer). Jabel Amman, 41559.	
Armenian Catholic Church Ashrafieh, 71331.	
Armenian Orthodox Church Ashrafieh, 75261.	
St. Ephraim Church (Syrian Orthodox). Ashrafieh, 71751.	
Amman International Church (Inter-denominational). 2605 at Southern Baptist School in Shmeisani, 663249.	
PRAYER TIMES	

FOR THE TRAVELLER

AMMAN AIRPORT

This information is supplied by Alia information department at the Queen Alia International Airport, tel. 080 33250, 33070, 33072, 33171, where it should always be verified.

ARRIVALS

07:00	Cairo (EA)
08:05	Baghdad (RJ)
09:30	Jeddah (RJ)
09:35	Kuwait (RJ)
09:45	Abu Dhabi, Kuwait (RJ)
09:45	Cairo (RJ)
10:00	Doha, Bahrain (RJ)
10:15	Beirut (RJ)
13:00	New York (RJ)
14:40	Kuwait (KAC)
15:30	Baghdad (RJ)
16:00	Belgrade, Istanbul (RJ)
16:45	Larnaca (RJ)
17:15	Frankfurt, Geneva (RJ)
17:50	Copenhagen, Athens (RJ)
18:30	Beirut (RJ)
19:00	Tripoli (RJ)
23:05	Cairo (EA)
00:30	Cairo (RJ)
00:45	Baghdad (RJ)

DEPARTURES

05:45	Cairo (EA)
06:30	Beirut (RJ)
07:00	Aqaba (RJ)
08:00	Cairo (EA)
08:30	Athens (Olympic)
09:05	Beirut (RJ)
11:15	Tripoli (RJ)
11:45	Tunis, Casablanca (RJ)
12:00	Frankfurt, Brussels (RJ)
12:45	Paris, London (RJ)
13:30	Rome, Madrid (RJ)
14:45	Larnaca (RJ)
15:30	Cairo (RJ)
15:40	Kuwait (KAC)
16:30	Baghdad (RJ)
19:30	Kuwait, Doha (RJ)
19:40	Jeddah (RJ)
20:30	Beirut (RJ)
20:30	Cairo (RJ)
20:30	Abu Dhabi, Dubai (RJ)
00:05	Cairo (RJ)

MONEY EXCHANGE

Local sell/buy rates in Jls	
Belgian franc	65.7 / 66.1
Dutch guilder	119.3 / 120
Egyptian pound	326 / 330.8
French franc	43.8 / 44.1
Iraqi dinar	372.7 / 381
Italian lire (for 100)	22.1 / 22.3
Japanese yen (for 100)	160.1 / 161.1
Kuwaiti dinar	127.0 / 127.6
Lebanese lira	67.1 / 68.3
Omani rial	1169.3 / 1076.7
Qatari riyal	102 / 102.6
Saudi riyal	106.4 / 107
Swedish crown	45.8 / 46.1
Swiss franc	67.3 / 68.4
Syrian lira	56.8 / 57.8
UAE dirham	101.4 / 102
U.K. sterling pound	529.1 / 532.3
U.S. dollar	373.5 / 375.3
W. German mark	133.9 / 134.7

HOSPITALS

Husseini Medical Centre	813813-32
Khalid Maternity, J. Amman	4281-4
Akileh Maternity, J. Amman	42441
Jabal Amman Maternity	42362
Malhas, J. Amman	36141
Palestine, Shmeisani	66471-4
Shmeisani Hospital	669131
University Hospital	248445
Dar Al-Shifa, J. Husseini	667158
Al-Muasher Hospital	66727-9
The Islamic, Abdali	665212
Al-Anli, Abdali	664164
Italian, Al-Muhajreen	77101-3
Al-Bashir, J. Ashrafieh	75111
Army, Marka	91611

NIGHT DUTY

AMMAN, Dr. Walid Sahawneh	79997
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WEATHER

Bulletin supplied by the Department of Meteorology.

It will be partly cloudy, with southerly moderate winds. In Aqaba, it will be partly cloudy, with northerly moderate winds and seas calm.

Low/high temperature in deg. C	
Amman	5/15
Aqaba	10/24
Deserts	3/18
Jordan Valley	10/23

Yesterday's high temperatures: Amman 14, Aqaba 23. Humidity readings: Amman 33 per cent, Aqaba 32 per cent.



His Royal Highness Crown Prince Hassan Thursday holds a meeting with the visiting U.S. delegation (Petra photo)

Hassan, Abu Odeh meet U.S. delegation

AMMAN (J.T.) — His Royal Highness Crown Prince Hassan Thursday received in his office a delegation representing a cross section of the American city of Boston.

The delegation, now on a tour of the region, was briefed by Prince Hassan on the conditions in the Middle East in general and the conditions of the Arab inhabitants under Israeli occupation in particular.

Prince Hassan also spoke about Israel's settlement and expansionist policies in the occupied Arab territories.

In a later meeting with the delegation, Minister of Information Adnan Abu Odeh said that the United States' total support for Israel obstructs the implementation of "land for peace" formula which would put an end to the M.E. conflict and restore stability to the region.

The information minister said that U.S. aid to Israel encourages it to pursue a policy of annexing Arab land and so destroy all chances of peace.

In the meeting, the minister explained to the 31-member delegation the Arab position stands since 1967 with regard to the U.N. Security Council Resolution 242, in contrast with Israel's negative attitude and its arrogance and drive for expansion at the expense of Arab land.

He also explained the importance of Jerusalem to Muslims, Christians and Jews alike, stressing that Arab land is not subject for negotiation, especially Arab Jerusalem which embodies the holy shrines for the three religions.

In the meeting the minister also reviewed the Arab-Israeli conflict since 1967 and Israel's arbitrary measures to the occupied Arab territories.

Crown Prince meets U.S. coordinator on refugees

AMMAN (J.T.) — His Royal Highness Crown Prince Hassan received in his office Thursday Eugene Douglas, U.S. coordinator for refugee affairs, who was for refugee affairs accompanied by his personal assistant Harold Fornoff.

Prince Hassan discussed with Mr. Douglas a number of issues pertaining to the problems and conditions of Palestinian refugees in Jordan. The American Ambassador to Jordan Richard Viets attended the meeting.

The U.S. officials also met Minister of Information Adnan Abu Odeh and Minister of Occupied Territories Affairs Hassan Ibrahim in separate meetings and reviewed various affairs pertaining to Palestinian refugees.

Mr. Douglas and Mr. Fornoff also toured various refugee centres and installations of the United Nations Relief and Works Agency for Palestine Refugees (UNRWA), in Jordan.

They were accompanied by UNRWA Director in Jordan Olof Hallqvist and his deputy, Ele Saaf. The U.S. officials concluded a three-day visit to Jordan and left the Kingdom on Thursday.

Italian businessmen visit Jordan

AMMAN (J.T.) — A delegation grouping Falsare Franco, the chief engineer of IDECO, and Mr. San Jioeg, the director general of the Italian company, INTESTVADIO and Mrs. Par Nisani, the director of the Fashions House in Vdine have paid a one-week visit to Jordan, during which they met some personalities and company owners to study prospects of establishing a number of projects in Jordan.

Iraqi martyrs of Palestine remembered

AL MAFAQ (J.T.) — A ceremony was held at the Martyr's Monument to Al Mafaq to commemorate the Iraqi martyrs who were killed in defence of Palestine. The ceremony was organised on the occasion of the 63rd anniversary of establishment of the Iraqi army, and was attended by Iraqi ambassador to Amman Ibrahim Shuja'a Al Sultan, Maqraq District Governor Izzuddin Al Gharaybeh, Commander of the Fifth Royal Division and Palestine Liberation Army's representative in Jordan, in addition to a number of Jordanian and Iraqi officials.

In Amman, the Iraqi ambassador to Jordan Friday evening gave a reception at the Regency Palace Hotel on the occasion. The reception was attended by Chief Islamic Justice Ibrahim Qattan, and the Amman Mayor.

NCC speaker, members review record

By Affah A. Kaloti
Jordan Times Staff Reporter

AMMAN — Following the Royal Decree Thursday to dissolve the National Consultative Council (NCC) as of Saturday Jan. 7, and calling the Lower House of Parliament to reconvene, the Jordan Times interviewed the speaker of the council, Mr. Suleiman Arar, as well as several chairmen of the various NCC committees on NCC achievements during the last session, which started in April 1982.

Mr. Arar stressed that the Jordanian constitution should be entirely applied by highlighting its various institutions, one of which is the establishment of parliament which groups the Upper House (the Senate) and the Lower House (the deputies) who are directly elected by people.

He pointed out that the constitution did not abrogate the parliamentary life in Jordan but the compelling situation following the Israeli occupation of the West Bank required a temporary suspension and an amendment ensuring the return of democratic and full parliamentary life to the country.

Therefore, Mr. Arar added, the NCC would not be valid anymore, should parliamentary life be restored.

Mr. Arar said that he had the honour of being the NCC speaker for its last session from April 1982. Asked to assess the session, Mr. Arar said that it should be left for people to assess the activities undertaken by the NCC.

'Filling a vacuum'

"But what I could say about the NCC achievements in general is that it filled a vacuum felt by the people," Mr. Arar said.

He explained that His Majesty King Hussein, the protector of the democratic life and the constitutional institutions in the country which were introduced in the twenties, found it convenient to fill the absence of the elected Lower House since 1974 from the Jordanian arena by the formation of the NCC which started its responsibilities since 1978. In respect to the study of laws referred from the government to the NCC and the handling of the various NCC recommendations and clarifications, Mr. Arar said that the NCC performed its duties to the best possible manner.

He said that the last NCC session, which did not exceed a period of 21 months, there were 72 sessions. During these, 58 laws ranging between amendments to existing ones to introducing totally new ones were thoroughly studied.

"Fifty-three laws were approved and five referred to the NCC by the government," Mr. Arar said.

He added that during that period the NCC members referred to the government 87 clarifications and 144 recommendations. "The former being explained and the latter being adopted," Mr. Arar said.

Regarding the work of the NCC members and committees, Mr. Arar said: "They all worked efficiently and seriously and studied all referred laws thoroughly."

Mr. Arar said that the NCC also handled various policy affairs to the country ranging from agricultural policy to political issues of the region.

All debates were sharp and serious and the government was very much cooperative in giving suitable answers to clarifications and in adopting all NCC recommendations.

Mr. Arar emphasised that the NCC should be proud of having such large responsibilities. "You must take into consideration that it was not an elected council and hence their recommendations have not been compulsory," Mr. Arar said.

However, he said, the government used to adopt all recommendations: "I do not recall one that has not been put into effect," he said.

Apart from the general assessment of the NCC, Mr. Arar pointed out that NCC gave the opportunity to highly qualified people in various fields to discuss frankly and objectively the political, economical and social issues of the country.

"It was also a chance for the NCC members to highlight their efficiency in the work done," Mr. Arar said.

Public services committee

Assessing the achievements of the NCC public services committee its chairman Suleiman Irimeh, who has been an NCC member for three consecutive sessions since 1978, said that during the last session the committee handled several important issues that were of concern to the public.

These, he said, covered issues connected with roads, schools, clinics and social services throughout the country.

Mr. Irimeh pointed out that the committee members used to make inroads of regions to examine the various services and found that most of them, particularly those pertaining to social services, schools and postal services were run in a most satisfying manner.

However, he pointed out, the central regions of the country were not of a required standard and therefore, the committee submitted to the NCC several public complaints.

Pointing out an important achievement of the committee, Mr. Irimeh said that the complaint, which came from citizens in the Azraq region that the Ministry of Municipal and Rural Affairs and the Environment had taken steps to move the inhabitants of the Azraq region to new areas. "The committee persuaded the ministry to change its mind in this concern," Mr. Irimeh said.

The committee furthermore, conducted studies on the pollution of the environment, particularly in Zarqa, Rusafa and Amman and submitted reports to the Ministry of Health, he said.

Mr. Irimeh added that the committee also played an essential role in formulating the traffic law. "The NCC approved the committee's views in that concern which later won government approval."

In conclusion, Mr. Irimeh said that the committee had carried out its assigned duties in the best possible manner despite the many difficulties and constraints.

"All my colleagues were happy to perform their national duty and offer whatever services required to serve the public and we all appreciate Mr. Arar's attitude who



Suleiman Arar

made it a point of attending all the committee's private sessions with the purpose of helping it arrive at a speedy resolution," Mr. Irimeh said.

West Bank affairs

The chairman of NCC West Bank affairs committee, Dr. Yacoub Abu Ghosh, said that his committee has worked very hard to boost the economic situation of people in the West Bank.

Dr. Abu Ghosh explained that the committee used to follow up government aid earmarked for people in the West Bank with the aim of expediting it. "The lands in the West Bank are always exposed to confiscation by the Israeli authorities if not built upon by the landowners."

He said that despite the financial difficulties the common Jordanian-Palestinian committee for steadfastness was always on the alert to give all possible loans. "It was a national duty for the committee to submit recommendations in that concern," Dr. Abu Ghosh said.

He expressed hope that the study referred to the committee regarding the assistance of farmers in the West Bank will be followed up by the Lower House of Parliament.

Social and educational

In assessing the accomplishments of the NCC social and educational committee, chairman Ahmad Abu Qoorah said that the work of the committee was "successful, beneficial and fruitful for it always endeavoured to discuss all issues with related people."

Dr. Abu Qoorah explained that issues related to the Ministries of Health, Education and Social Development were discussed with former and current ministers as well as with experts specialised in the various related fields.

Pointing out the most important achievements of the committee, Dr. Abu Qoorah said that it studied the higher educational council law as well as the medical law.

He said that the committee studied thoroughly the curriculum of education in the country as well as the comprehensive examinations

of community colleges.

Dr. Abu Qoorah added that the committee also discussed the schooling movement related to the Ministry of Education.

Regarding the Ministry of Social Development, he said that the committee studied all its current and future programmes and accordingly submitted recommendations to the NCC.

Dr. Abu Qoorah expressed hope that all recommendations submitted by the committee will be taken into consideration by the Lower House of Parliament.

The economical committee

In respect to the NCC economical committee, its chairman Anis Mu'asher said that the committee used to study thoroughly all NCC-referred draft laws and suggestions related to economical issues.

Mr. Mu'asher pointed out that the committee used to hold discussions with the concerned groups both with the private and governmental sectors.

"Whenever the committee found their opinions convenient it used accordingly to submit recommendations for the NCC to discuss it and then refer it to the government."

He pointed out that the most important draft laws the committee had undertaken were the ones related to the companies.

Mr. Mu'asher expressed hope that the committee's study related to the protection and support of the Jordanian industry and the investment encouragement will be studied by the forthcoming Lower House of Parliament.

Regarding the legal committee, its chairman Taher Hikmat said that the work of this committee was the most condensed one because the legislation part was the NCC's most important function.

Mr. Hikmat said that the past few years witnessed enormous and large amendments of various laws. He went on to say that the NCC throughout its life discussed, amended and approved a quite large number of essential laws.

Mr. Hikmat said that the last session of the NCC thoroughly studied and approved 58 draft laws, two of which the committee had the chance to only study and discuss, but were not given the opportunity to be referred to NCC members.

Mr. Hikmat added that speedy progress was achieved in the social and economic issues imposed on the NCC.

The important legislative role which indicates that progressive communities including the Jordanian community respond to the changed requirements and hence the change in the legislative laws.

Legislative achievements

"No one can deny the legislative achievements of the committee

which was able to fill the large vacuum in its three consecutive sessions."

Mr. Hikmat pointed out that law discussions were not undertaken in closed sessions. "It always invited all related people as well as beneficiaries to opine," he said.

The chairman of the national mobilisation committee, Mrs. Laila Sharaf said: "In my opinion the committee was almost a total failure for the experiments of the committee introduced a new dimension to the nature of the work that the NCC had been used to, a dimension that would have meant building more bridges of communication with the citizens whom we are expected to represent."

Foreign Affairs Committee

In respect to the NCC foreign affairs committee chairman, Abdul Wahab Al Majali said that the committee was continuously in contact with Prime Minister Mudar Badran and Minister of Foreign Affairs Marwan Al Qasem discussing various political issues.

Mr. Majali said that the committee used to announce all political issues of importance before the NCC and "frank discussions pertaining to politics were held during the NCC's sessions."

He added that the committee used also to receive foreign political delegations to the country and explain the Jordanian-Political views on M.E. issues as well as international ones.

"It was a good experience and a tool to spread political information within the possibilities surrounding the political situation," Mr. Majali said.

Still resistance

Mrs. Sharaf explained that all experiments introduced were met with still resistance and it was a shocking surprise to many new NCC members that the group that was supposed to be at the helm of this country "was so scared of positive changes and of getting out of its shell to contact people and decision makers."

She pointed out that the bridges and channels of positive communication "are lacking so much in our political life."

Mrs. Sharaf pointed out that the committee, "having gotten over the hurdle of bridges," was faced with a bigger obstacle.

"Many, if not most, NCC members were not willing to speak out about problems and discuss meaningful issues related to education, information policy, freedom and many other issues of primary concern to the citizens," she said.

Mrs. Sharaf concluded: "This is why the committee that was supposed to be a landmark became a total failure."

UNRWA denies story of staff replacements

AMMAN (J.T.) — The United Nations Relief and Works Agency for Palestine Refugees (UNRWA) has denied that it is contemplating the idea of replacing its Arab staff members with managerial responsibilities with international personnel.

In a statement to the press, UNRWA Director in Jordan Per Olof Hallqvist said the assignment, transfer and reassignment of UNRWA staff members are "determined according to actual needs and with the interests of UNRWA taken into consideration."

The Arabic-language daily Al Rai reported last week that foreign personnel were appointed to "important administrative posts which had been filled by Jordanian employees". Mr. Hallqvist rejected this report as "completely incorrect," and said

UNRWA has "no intention to replace any of its senior area staff members with internationals."

Mr. Hallqvist also said regulations governing retirement of UNRWA staff members are similar to provisions covering retirements in all public sectors. Every year the agency prepares a list of retiring staff members covering all categories, Mr. Hallqvist said, and during 1984 there would be quite a number of such retiring personnel who have reached their retirement age.

Mr. Hallqvist refuted that one of UNRWA personnel, Mr. Elias Habash, whose name was mentioned in the Al Rai report, was being retired before the stipulated age. Mr. Habash is not being retired in February 1984 as mentioned in the report, Mr. Hallqvist said.

Commerce body urges import-export promotion

AQABA (Petra) — The Council of the Federation of Jordanian Chambers of Commerce has recommended that private sector merchants be allowed to promote import-export activities in all economic fields.

It also recommended that Jordanian transport movement should

be supported and that economic activities should be promoted. At the end of its meetings, concluded in Aqaba Thursday, the council also recommended reducing the maximum allowed load of foreign trucks, giving Jordanian ones priority in transporting goods.

Public shows hopes, asks questions on parliament's recall

By Salameh Ne'matt
and Anne Counsell

Jordan Times staff reporters

AMMAN — The recall of the Jordanian Parliament, Thursday has drawn a public reaction ranging from optimism and expectations to skepticism and questions on what the change would herald.

The Jordan Times conducted spontaneous interviews with people from all walks of life — from politicians and doctors to merchants and the man of the street — to assess the public's reaction to the move.

Many of the people, were in general not informed enough about the current situation. Several knew nothing of the re-establishment of parliament nor what it would entail or change.

Those who knew of the situation generally viewed the concept favourably and welcomed the return to representation through election.

Mr. Sameer Nasri, a supermarket owner from Jerusalem, said that he felt that the first steps to unite the Palestinian and Jordanian people were being taken through the restoration of parliament with representatives from both the East and West banks.

He also expressed optimism that a united and strong government would result from the restoration of parliament as the people would feel they had more say in the running of the country's

affairs.

'A New stage in Jordan'

Mr. Ahmad Sharaka, a grocer in Wadi Sagra street said, the restoration of parliament would take Jordan back to the stage before 1967 with the two banks united and "I think that this could be an indication for a new stage in Jordan's politics, which may differ from the Rabat (Arab summit) conference resolutions, to take more positive steps by Jordan itself to align the moderate Arabs to try and resolve the West Bank issue."

Asked about the representation of the Palestinian people in the parliament, Mr. Sharaka said: "With the recent fighting inside the (P.L.O.) Palestine Liberation Organisation, it is very difficult to say how the West Bankers themselves regard them (the P.L.O.) and how the Palestinians here look at them but I think that most of the people look towards His Majesty King Hussein for a positive step."

Also, my personal view is that (P.L.O. Chairman Yasser) Arafat should try and liaise with King Hussein at the moment. I feel that they have to, and this step should have been taken a long time ago. I am a West Banker myself and I have long held the view, that it is better to liaise here (with Jordan) and have co-ordination rather than fight and struggle. Look at the results, they prove this."

'Step in the right direction'

Those people who knew of the proposed changes but not the details, generally thought the re-establishment of parliament was a step in the right direction.

Mr. Azzam Malhas, (occupation unknown), thinks that the concept "is good" and is waiting to see the results. The same view was expressed by Mr. Awni Okkeh a who said that he felt the move was "overdue" but would be "much fairer and more representative" and expressed hope that it would result in a better system.

'Parliament must prove itself'

"We have been used to non-parliamentary rule and the new parliament will have to prove itself, although it will certainly be better when the people have a say in the running of their country," said Mr. Sa'id Shehadeh, managing director of an investment company. He also mentioned that in a proper democracy, people would be more aware of internal affairs and take more part and interest in the government if they felt themselves a part of it.

Mr. Shehadeh also said that he would like to see the legalisation of political parties, although this would obviously take time, as political division in moderation is a very healthy means to discussion.

A comment on the issue from Amale Bibi, a 36-year-old Leb-

anese living in Jordan, was: "I wish good luck to the Jordanian Parliament."

"It is too early now to know how far a new parliament will affect our daily life," Mr. Aadeb Saleh a... said, "for democracy is something that I personally never got used to but nevertheless there is no harm in trying it."

Mr. Mun'em Fakhouri, a 30-year-old travel agency employee in Amman praised King Hussein for his decision to restore parliamentary life and described the parliament as a "symbol of democracy and another boost to the Jordanian-Palestinian dialogue."

Mr. Najeeb Al Tal, a school teacher, said that in order to achieve real democracy, there should be a legalisation of political parties and an end to the state of martial law imposed since 1967 in Jordan as an introduction for the holding of free elections.

Any step towards democracy has to be encouraged, Mr. Walid Lutfi, a 27-year-old accountant said, but special attention has to be given to raise the awareness of voters in order to have the right men in the right place and to put an end to factional elections.

Mr. Omar Khalil, an insurance agent, said it is "premature now to determine the scope of democracy that we are going to enjoy in the light of any new elected parliament."

"Besides," he said, "there are still many questions that need to be answered such as who is going

to elect and vote for West Bank representatives and what about Palestinians carrying Jordanian passports and who do they vote for?"

On the other hand, Mr. Khalil said, there is the problem of the legalisation of political parties and the martial law imposed in the country that remains to be lifted. "I think we have to wait and see," Mr. Khalil added.

Prominent Jordanians cable King

AMMAN (J.T.) — A number of Jordanian personalities have sent a cable to His Majesty King Hussein expressing their loyalty and support for his courageous leadership and blessing the restoration of the full constitutional life to the country. The following signed the cable, among them several National Consultative Council (NCC) members: Dr. Jamal Al Sha'er, Mr. Tala' Al Omari, Dr. Faisal Kana'an, Mrs. Naila Al Rashdan, Mr. Anwar Mohammad Al Hadid, Mr. Wahib Abdo Al Sha'er, Mr. Sa'id Bido, Dr. Carlos Dymis, Dr. Adaweyyah Al Alami, Dr. Abdul Salam Qamhawi, Dr. Mohammed Abed Rabbo, Mr. Ja'far Touqan, Dr. Wajih Barakat, Dr. Ghazi Al Qasem, Mr. Ibrahim Otour and Mr. Mazen Al Hadid.

ANNOUNCEMENT

RETENDERING OF KING ABDULLAH BIN AL-HUSSEIN COMPLEX AND PUBLIC PARK PROJECT (Wadi Sagra)

The Amman Development Corporation announces retendering of the execution process of King Abdullah Bin Al-Hussein Complex and Public Park Project, (Wadi Sagra), which contains educational, recreational sport and commercial centres and car parks which constitute with the public and luna park a commercial and social complex which is considered to be a breather to the inhabitants.

CONSTITUENTS OF THE PROJECT:-

1. First phase which consists of the following:
 - 1.1 Commercial Centre (shops, supermarket, restaurant, post office, a bank and public services). Area... 6,800 sq. m.
 - 1.2 A piazza and a shopping mall characterized by the traditional Arabic style. Area... 4,600 sq. m.
 - 1.3 Covered, semi-covered and open car parks that accommodate 750 cars.
 - 1.4 Landscaping, site levelling and infrastructure which include a public and luna park, open amphitheatre, cafeterias, snack bars and public services. Area... 49,000 sq. m.

2. Second phase which consists of the following:-

- 2.1 The recreational centre (Cinema, Bowling hall, Exhibition hall, Cafeteria). Area... 4,000 sq. m.
- 2.2 The tower block consists of offices. Area... 13,000 sq. m.

REQUIREMENTS:-

- A. The companies which had been previously prequalified for this project are requested to come to Amman Development Corporation Offices to receive the drawings, conditions and the tender documents.
- B. All the Jordanian firms classified as general class, buildings, according to the new classifications of Ministry of Public Works are allowed to participate in the tender individually. Therefore, all the companies who wish to participate are requested to come to Amman Development Corporation Offices to receive the drawings, conditions and the tender documents.
- C. The price of each copy of the tender documents is 1,000 JD non-refundable.
- D. Amman Development Corporation has the right to award execution of one phase or both phases of the project.
- E. All tenderers are requested to submit an optional financing proposal for the project accompanied with the execution proposal. The optional financing proposal is considered to be a beneficial point in favour of the tenderer.
- F. The tender documents in volumes I, II, III, IV should be filled in and submitted in three copies, of which one is original.
- G. The drawings, conditions and the tender documents shall be ready on January 16th, 1984.
- H. The last submission date of the tender documents will be 12:00 noon on Monday, March 19th, 1984.

1. The tender documents shall be submitted to Amman Development Corporation Offices in Shamsiyya, behind the Jordan Tower Hotel opposite Grindlays Bank.

P.O. Box 926621
Tel: 662717/662718
Telex: 22133 ADC Jo.

Sami Al Rashid
Director General

By Franz Schurmann

VIEW FROM AMERICA

International tensions slow down recovery

SAN FRANCISCO — In an earlier commentary, I wrote about the curious contradiction between the disturbing news coming from the Middle East, Central America, and the arms control talks in Geneva on the one hand, and the signs that the prices of both the dollar and gold were going down. I was wrong. It would seem. In late November, the value of the dollar on world currency markets went up, and gold was beginning to rise as well from lows in the higher \$300's. I interpreted this contradiction at the time as the result of some deeper confidence by the wealthy and powerful of the world that, sooner or later, agreement (of sorts) would be reached in regard to these three crisis areas. Has that confidence now evaporated?

May be yes, or maybe no. We shall see as the current Christmas year 1984 travels on. If I was indeed wrong, then we shall see more dangerous tensions over Lebanon... and the Gulf, more trouble in El Salvador and Central America, a freezing of the U.S.-Soviet arms talks till the U.S. presidential election is less than a year from now, and the dollar and gold will go up and up. But if in the end I was right, we shall see the high value of the dollar slip downward, and we shall see the price of gold remain in the \$300's.

If fears of war calm down, then there is a vast amount of money that will shift from money markets into production. The American recovery has been strong. Few economists a year ago predicted such a strong recovery.

A year and a half ago, I wrote a commentary for American newspapers suggesting that it could happen that Reagan would do for the American economy what Nixon managed to do in 1971 and 1972. Later I too was influenced by the weight of so much expert opinion.

And while I always thought there would be a recovery, I was not sure how strong. Anyway, it is a strong recovery, and we saw its strength in the volume of Christmas spending last year in the U.S. And Christmas spending is supposed to have been strong in Japan and Western Europe.

Why so strong a recovery? The reasons are not economic but psychological and political. Those with money and experience assume that no American president will take risks during the year before an election. That means great attempts will be made to cool down crises. That means bigger business investment and also bigger short-term profits. That also means interest rates will not go up and could go down.

And so those who play the market game look away from money market earnings to profits to be made in the classical way: through production. Maybe in 1985 recession or inflation or both will come again, but for now the wheels of production and consumption are moving again.

That will mean a lower dollar value and a lower gold value. Could that mean inflation? Possibly. Could that mean that

those who hold dollars will want to exchange them for other currencies? Maybe. But that will not make Washington nervous, because it will help stimulate depressed economies, like those in Europe. And in 1985, the pressure of higher interest rates can be applied again.

It all depends on a settling (even if temporary) of the great crisis issues: Middle East, Central America, and the U.S.-Soviet (and West European, Chinese, and Japanese as well) arms control disagreements.

What can be settled? Not much in the end, but fighting can always be ended, people and places can be spared from destruction. West Beirut was spared in the end, and so was Tripoli. When the West Beirut

siege by the Israelis was lifted last year, the money-holders throughout the world breathed more easily. Signs of economic recovery began to multiply.

This November, signs of worry began to grow as a vast U.S. fleet came together off the Lebanese coast. The worries grew. Would U.S. soldiers land in even greater numbers and march toward the Shouf or the Bekaa and come into conflict with the Syrians? There were right-wingers in Washington who urged this course on the administration. The louder their voices, the higher the dollar went.

And the higher the dollar goes, the louder other voices in Washington that say one thing: Cool things down... everywhere.

ARABIC PRESS EDITORIALS

Friday

Al Ra'i: Heralding a new epoch

DEMOCRACY HAS been an outstanding regular practice in Jordan when times allowed it. Times hardships did not facilitate its practice after the Israeli occupation of the West Bank, democracy has been a dear aim.

The circumstances that made it impossible to hold elections after the occupation created a representative vacuum in Jordan which necessitated the setting up of the National Consultative Council (NCC) to bridge the political gap between the government and people.

The NCC held its opening session on April 20, 1978, and it was restructured in its second and third terms to expand the scale of representation. The council continued its regular sessions until a Royal decree was proclaimed that it will be dismantled as of Jan. 8.

It is only fair to point out that the dissolved council has been one of the states leading bodies, during the six years of its functioning, and it is fair to say that it has been among the first institutions to call for the return of parliamentary life, stressing that it was no substitute for an elected parliament. Over its six operational years, the council has made room for other views to be expressed, and has dedicated a sense of participation in political life by the people.

The new epoch of parliamentary life to start on Monday will be of great political, national and historical importance; and among the paramount issues it is to tackle is the strengthening of fraternal ties among the members of our one family, which are the foundations of our well-being and ability to face various challenges, under the wise leadership of His Majesty the King.

Al Dustour: Paving a new way

RETURN TO full constitutional life has been a great event in the Jordanian people's life. The summoning of the elected parliament to resume its responsibilities and lay the foundations for democracy has been long aspired for, and Jordanian citizens will always cherish the great fulfillment of His Majesty King Hussein's promise to restore constitutional life in the country.

The King's message to the National Consultative Council (NCC) re-emphasises his concern for the resumption of parliamentary life according to the constitution. The King also stressed that every Jordanian citizen has his share in shouldering national responsibilities and should contribute to serving the national cause in the current epoch of decisive and essential decisions.

Return to parliamentary life is a genuine expression of the unity of the Jordanian and Palestinian peoples, and is a step signifying joint struggle for the solidification of the unity of goals and destiny. People in the two banks east and west of the River Jordan are to take part in the decision-making process, which is closely related to their present and future.

We hope that the return of the elected parliament will pave the way for satisfying our aspirations for solidifying democratic practice in its wider sense, and for overcoming difficulties and challenges confronting our one people in the two banks of Jordan.

Sawt Al Shaab: Guarantee for everyone

THE ROYAL Decree that terminated the functions of the National Consultative Council (NCC), which was necessary over a transitional period, and the summoning up of the old parliament to resume parliamentary democracy in the country signify a new era of political life in full compliance with the provisions of the constitution.

This practice has been obstructed by Israel's occupation of the West Bank, and the summoned parliament is to amend the constitution so that elections could be held in various Jordanian electorates without violating the legal status of the West Bank, constitutionally a part of Jordan.

Constitutional democracy has been the prominent trend in Jordanian political life. And the occupation has long been an obstacle to practising it. It is hoped now that while overcoming this obstacle, our Jordanian family will be able through high awareness and sense of responsibility to build up a democratic society in which constructive popular participation is predominant.

Our national sufferings and experience should make us more determined to shoulder our national responsibilities under the guidance and leadership of His Majesty King Hussein, and we should rally forces to meet our commitments and achieve our goal of liberating the occupied Palestinian territories and safeguarding legitimate Palestinian rights.

The parliament has always been a source of legislation and control over the executive authority. It is also a place where all efforts and channels interact to oversee the national drive of our country. In parliamentary life, the yearnings and aspirations for freedom and national independence have been amply represented. The parliament is a guarantee for the rulers and the ruled.

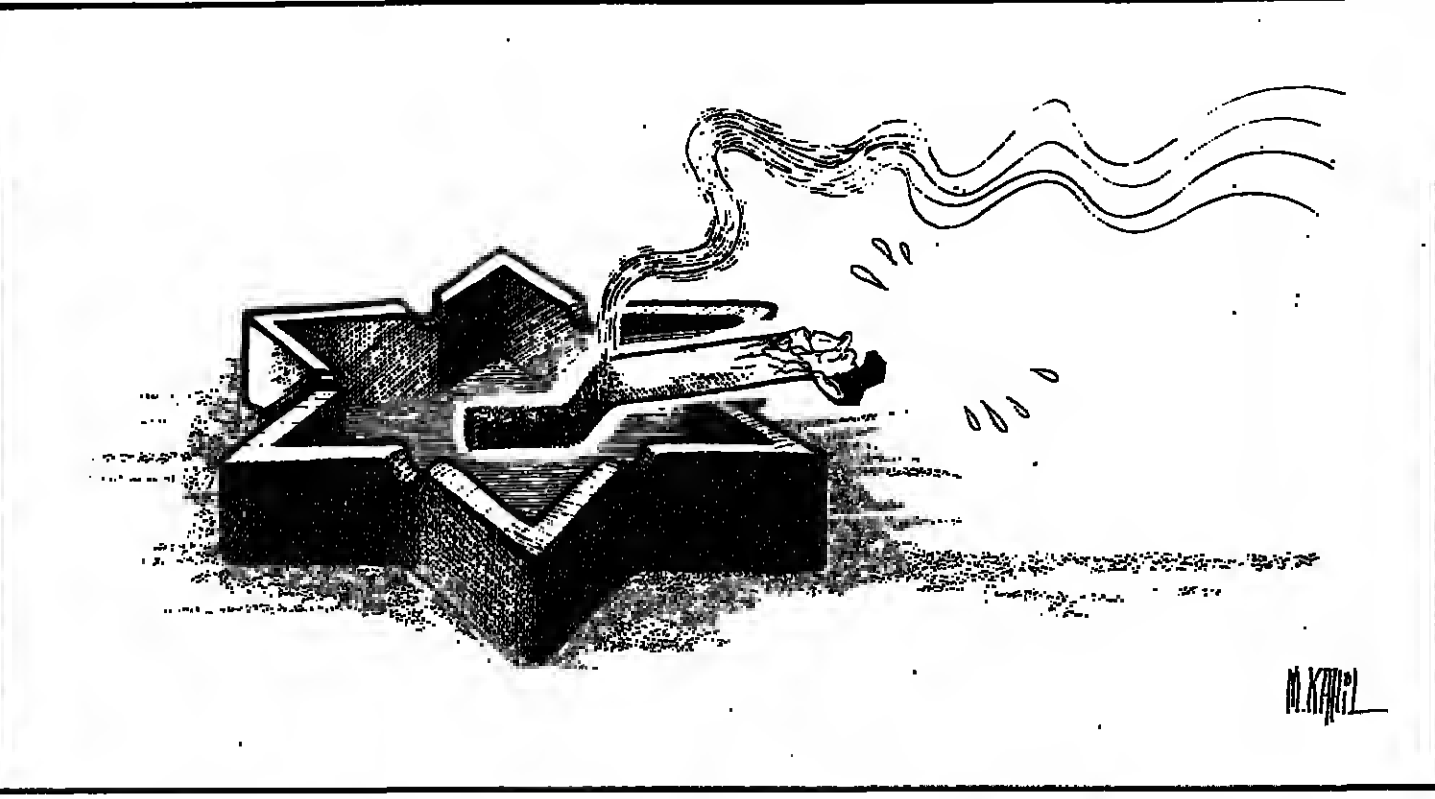
Thursday

Al Ra'i: Very dangerous step

IN A new step to abort all chances of achieving a peaceful settlement to the Palestine problem, Israel has just announced measures aimed at imposing Israeli legislation on the occupied Arab regions in violation of all laws and international principles. This is a clear act of Judaisation of the occupied territories which accompanies the Zionist drive for annexing them to Israel.

This Israeli move is directed against a peaceful settlement of the Palestine issue and a challenge to all who support such a solution. It is also a provocation to the Arabs and an attempt to escalate tension in the region. Of course the U.S. administration cannot absolve itself of this Israeli action. Under the U.S. Israeli strategic agreement, both sides have to hold consultations and coordinate their stand vis-a-vis any issues that concern either side.

The situation in the Middle East and the Palestine question both fall within the terms of this agreement. If in fact the imposition of Israeli legislations and laws on the West Bank and the Gaza Strip are the most dangerous steps to be taken and something against which the U.S. has done nothing, not even a word of disapproval. We remember the U.S. is so quick at condemning any Palestinian resistance activity within the occupied territories.



\$300 billion 'to re-arm America'

By Robert Trautman
Reuter

WASHINGTON — President Reagan is expected to send Congress a defence budget of more than \$300 billion this month, designed to put the finishing touches on his pledge to "re-arm America."

Mr. Reagan made his promise when he took office in 1981, and by the time his term ends this year, the United States will have spent about \$1,500 billion on arms.

The new budget will cover defence spending for the 1985 financial year beginning next October.

Officials expect the money will not be used for major new programmes, with the possible exception of increased research on a space-based defence system, but for more of the ships, planes and missiles already being built.

Although budget-makers in the Pentagon Defence Department and in the White House have not yet set a final figure for arms spending, Defence Secretary Casper Weinberger wants a big jump from the 1984 level.

Sizeable cuts

Estimating defence spending for 1984 a year ago, Mr. Reagan and Mr. Weinberger asked for \$273.4 billion. But Congress feared too much money was going on arms at the expense of a soaring budget deficit and cut their request to \$258.1 billion.

Mr. Weinberger, criticising the cut, told reporters earlier this month: "I'm sincerely convinced without the slightest question that an increase in the defence budget is absolutely required."

Mr. Weinberger supported Mr. Reagan's original plan to ask Congress for \$321.5 billion for 1985. But congressional budget officials have said Pentagon spending should be more in the range of \$289 billion.

Some senior White House aides are pushing for a \$305 billion request, saying that having reduced his original demand Mr. Reagan can argue the arms budget is already at rock bottom and can project a lower budget deficit.

Policing role

But Mr. Weinberger has always argued defence budgets cannot be pegged to the health of the economy, but only to the amount needed to protect the national security.

Mr. Reagan and Mr. Weinberger want a U.S. military strong enough not only to maintain its traditional presence in Western Europe, South Korea, and Japan, but also to quell fighting quickly if it breaks out in other trouble-spots.

These include Southwest Asia, to protect the flow of Gulf oil in the interests of the industrial nations, and in South America, where Mr. Reagan believes Communism is creeping slowly northward towards the U.S. border.

To meet these demands, the Pentagon will continue to build up existing defences as well as pursuing its massive weapon procurement plans in the coming year.

When he took office, Mr. Reagan called for modernisation of the country's nuclear "triad" of missile-carrying bombers and ground and submarine-launched missiles. He got virtually everything he wanted.



Money secured

He also called for a 600-ship fleet, as well as increased purchases of aircraft and improved command and communications.

Although 600 ships are not built, Navy Secretary John Lehman says enough money has been committed and enough keels laid to ensure that there can be no turning back and it is only a matter of time before all 600 are at sea.

Pentagon plans for 1985 call for building 720 more General Dynamics M-1 tanks towards an army goal of 7,000, and 830 FMC Corporation Bradley armoured fighting vehicles, for which the goal is 6,900.

The tanks cost about \$2.5 million each and the Bradleys about \$1.8 million. Planned ship purchases include one Trident ballistic missile submarine, at about \$1.5 billion, and four attack submarines, at about \$300 million each.

The navy also wants three guided missile cruisers, with the latest firepower systems, at \$1.2 billion each.

In addition, they want money

for two of four World War II battleships that are to be modernised, the Wisconsin and the Missouri. The New Jersey has already been modernised and is in action off Lebanon, and refitting has begun on the Iowa.

Navy procurement plans for 1985 also include 92 McDonnell Douglas F-15 jet fighters, at about \$22 million each, toward a goal of 1,377 planes.

Air force plans include 72 F-15 fighters, also built by McDonnell Douglas, at \$21.5 million each, and 120 General Dynamics F-16s, at \$16 million each.

Money for 34 B-1 strategic bombers, being built by Rockwell International, is also to be included in the budget. A total of 100 are planned, for \$20.5 billion.

Space war too

Mr. Reagan is expected to ask for congressional approval to resume production of nerve gas. He has turned down in similar requests the past two years.

He will also probably ask for funds for the "star wars" space-based defence, proposed in a speech last March, defence officials said.

The programme envisages using much still-unperfected technology including lasers to destroy incoming missiles as they leave their launch pads or while they are in flight.

Officials estimate the research programme could cost between \$18 billion and \$27 billion over five years.

But they said Mr. Reagan was likely to ask only for between \$500 m. and one billion to finance the programme's first year.

Revenge war against Basque activists

By Luis Carlinio
Reuter

MADRID — The emergence of a shadowy group vowing to fight a revenge war against Basque separatist guerrillas living in France has led to allegations of Spanish government involvement in an escalating "dirty war."

In less than a month, the self-styled Anti-Terrorist Liberation Group (GAL) has struck three times in the French Basque region described by Spanish authorities as a sanctuary for the guerrillas of ETA (Basque Homeland and Freedom).

The government has pledged to cooperate with France to unmask the anti-terrorist group, but both radical and moderate Basque politicians openly accuse the ruling Socialists of promoting a "dirty war" on both sides of the border.

The president of the moderate Basque Nationalist Party (PNV),

the dominant force in the region, told a rally last week in Bilbao: "I am convinced, although I cannot prove it, that the GAL and the dirty war are backed from Madrid."

"When a government reaches such extremes it places itself outside all ethics, endangers its very institutions and admits its inability to solve a problem", Xavier Arzallus said.

GAL's kidnap of a Basque refugee, the murder of ETA member Jose Oniaderra and last week's shooting of Miguel Goikoetxea, an ETA executioner wanted for 23 killings in Spain, came shortly after the arrest of four Spanish policemen accused of trying to kidnap another ETA leader in France.

Prime Minister Felipe Gonzalez has drawn heavy criticism by stating that, although he condemned GAL's attacks and intended to fight terrorism through constitutional means, he was more

worried by the 500 deaths caused by ETA since 1977 in its fight for an independent Marxist state.

"His worrying statements about ETA's crimes in no way absolve terrorism of another kind," the leading daily El Pais said Saturday in an editorial.

Mr. Gonzalez's spokesman Eduardo Sotillos responded later by expressing the government's readiness to cooperate with France to identify GAL's members. Basque moderates fear that the issue may have already provided the separatists with ammunition in their campaign for February's regional parliament elections.

The Herri Batasuna (Popular Unity) coalition, considered the political arm of ETA, said in a communiqué: "The Socialist Party is responsible for this and its hands are stained with blood."

The PNV-controlled autonomous government formally demanded a thorough investigation but Mr. Arzallus had

previously told reporters that "the government knows pretty well who GAL are."

Basque politicians believe the group's members are professional killers linked to organised crime or right-wing extremists, a view reinforced by the arrest in France of a former member of the OAS, a clandestine group that fought against Algerian independence in the 1950s.

They suggest they could be in the pay of either the Spanish security forces or businessmen tired of paying the "revolutionary taxes" extorted by ETA and recall the emergence of at least two similar groups in the past few years.

The commander of the paramilitary civil guard, Lt. Gen. Ignacio Saez de Santa Maria, Friday denied any involvement by the security forces but added: "There are many interests hurt by ETA and they will naturally punish ETA in return, but that's France's problem."

Palestinians see Jews as violent, prejudiced

By David K. Shieler

DHEISHEH REFUGEE CAMP, Israeli-occupied West Bank — The 11-year-old Arab girl has freckles on her nose and wears a red ribbon at the top of a long braid that swings to and fro along her back. Her name is Amal Abu Al Jamiyya. Amal means hope.

She has never seen a Jew without a gun.

In the labyrinth of pathways that meander among the cold concrete houses of her slum, a refugee camp that has been under Israeli military occupation since six years before she was born, Amal sees only two kinds of Jews: uniformed soldiers and civilian settlers, usually running through the camp after children who have thrown stones at Israeli cars and buses.

She has never spoken to a Jew. She says she never wants to. "Do you like Jews?" she is asked.

"No."

"Why not?"

"They attack our houses, breaking everything, building settlements."

Why would she not want to talk with any Jews? "Because they are our enemies."

And what is her dream in life? "To get back our land."

How? "Demonstrate." And then, after a moment's thought, this cute girl with freckles adds, "We must use guns."

In a camp like this, Arabs' images of Jews are the harshest and most categorical of any living under Israeli control. Urban residents of the West Bank often display less hostility, or at least mask it with sophisticated argument. Arabs inside Israel proper, who are Israeli citizens themselves, are caught in complex ambivalence about the stereotypes they hold.

But those in the Dheisheh camp just south of Bethlehem exist behind walls that have become metaphors for their isolation: the concrete barricades that the Israeli Army has recently erected across all the camp's exits to the main road to discourage stone-throwers.

Although the 5,000 camp residents may leave and enter through a back way, they smile angrily when they call their slum their "ghetto," relishing the opportunity to turn the language of Jewish suffering against the Jews.

Nadir al-Faraj, 13, a boy with a film of pain across his eyes, likes to throw stones. Jews have tried to talk to him. "Sometimes soldiers call to speak with me," he says, "but I refuse and run away." What does he want to be when he grows up? "Fedayee," he says firmly.

Across the pre-1967 border, inside Israel proper, the Arabs who have lived as Israeli citizens since 1948 are generally less militant, although they have their prejudices. Some say to each other, "Don't behave like a Jew," by which they mean arrogant or stingy.

The common stereotypes of Jews held by Israeli Arabs include violence, sexual permissiveness, greed, sneakiness, technological superiority and a lack of personal warmth.

"There is awe of Jews, and envy," said Peter Schakman, 23, an American Jew from Buffalo, New York, "who is living in an Arab village as part of Interns for Peace, a programme to increase Arab-Jewish contacts and understanding." To many Arabs, who judge by their own standards of effusive hospitality, "Jews are cold. Jews are inhospitable," Mr. Schakman said.

Violence predominant

Violence is a heavy theme. Street games involve fantasies of Arab-Jewish battles. Walid Sadiq, a teacher and member of the town council of the Arab village of Taibe, northeast of Tel Aviv, and other Arabs say that their small sons and daughters, watching cowboy movies on television,

think the Arabs are fighting the Jews.

"When you say, 'Jew,' they immediately think of a violent policeman," said Khalil Samir, a school principal from Tamra in Galilee. "If you ask a Jew, 'What do you think of an Arab?' they think terrorist or worse."

Some Arabs find that their most emotional and complex contacts with Jewish society come in relations between the sexes. Here, each side is most vulnerable, and the wounds can be deep.

"When I was a young guy I used to drive around in a Jeep and go into discos in Tiberias," said Samir Sabagh, an Arab builder from the northern Galilee. His Hebrew was so fluent and his appearance such that many Jews thought he was Jewish. He used to like to dance with "soldier girls," he recalled. Jewish women in the Israeli Army. "Once I was dancing with a girl soldier," he said, "and she heard me speaking Arabic to a friend. She said, 'What? You're an Arab? I won't dance with you, I can't dance with you.' She backed away."

"I said: 'You're not dancing with an Arab. You're dancing with a person.'" He added: "I took me two to three weeks and she was begging me to take her out."

For more than a year, Zohar Endrawos, 25, from the Arab town of Tarsihia, dated a young woman from the neighbouring Jewish village of Maalot. "Then I found out what racism was," he said. "How many times I heard 'dirty Arab' from her parents, friends."

During a lovers' quarrel, "even my own girlfriend said to me once, 'This will teach me to get close to you barbarians,'" he recalled. "I could never have said that to her about her Jewishness."

He added: "In general, Arabs are afraid of Jewish things — anything that's Jewish, they're afraid of. The education I received from my mother was to walk next to the wall and not cause any problems."

Of all the images of Jews that Arabs possess, the one that ignites the deepest fury among Israeli Jews is the argument that what the Nazis did to the Jews, the Jews now do to the Palestinians.

Israel rules 3.3 million Jews and nearly 2 million Arabs, including those resident in the occupied territories.

Neo-Nazis

Last September, when two foreign correspondents visited Ansar, the Israeli prison camp in southern Lebanon, they heard the head of the prisoners' committee, a Palestine Liberation Organisation officer named Salah Taamri, invoke the Nazi death camps in denouncing Israel.

"Ansar is Auschwitz," the prisoners chanted. Cordelia Edvardson of the Swedish newspapers Svenska Dagbladet had been imprisoned in Auschwitz, but did not tell Mr. Taamri that when she asked if he agreed with the prisoners' chant.

"I can't agree and I can't disagree," he answered. Referring to former Prime Minister Menachem Begin, he added: "When Begin said about us — animals on two feet — doesn't it bring an echo of what Hitler said about the Jews? To someone whose family got killed, the whole world is a Holocaust. Should anything be special because you are Jewish? Are they the chosen people of God, or are they the chaotic people of the devil?"

In the Dheisheh refugee camp, little Amal with the red ribbon in her hair was asked what she would talk about if she met a Jewish girl her age. "Nothing," Amal replied. "Wouldn't she be interested in knowing about the other girl's life? 'No,' and why not? 'Because I don't know her,' Amal declared, "and she doesn't know me." — New York Times Service.

مكتبة من الكتب

Parliamentary life in Jordan has a rich history

By Elia Nasrallah

Jordan Times Staff Writer

AMMAN—Parliamentary life in Jordan dates back to 1918 when elections were held for autonomy rule under Ottoman Empire. When Prince Faisal (King Hussein's great uncle) formed his first military government in 1918 after the First World War, Jordanians took part in the elections, held in the following year.

In 1921, a national government for Jordan was formed under Prince Abdullah (King Hussein's grandfather and founder of the Kingdom), and in 1923 a consultative council (Shura) was set up. Following Britain's recognition of Transjordan's independence on May 25, 1923, a national committee was set up to draw up a law for the country's parliament.

In 1928, when the Anglo-Jordanian treaty was drawn, a legislative law was issued and followed by a general election in April 1929. The second election was held in 1931 and the elected house's mandate lasted for three years.

The third legislative house was elected in 1934, and in November 1937 the fourth election was held and the new house's mandate ran until 1942. The fifth election was held in October 1942.

Following the country's independence, and the proclamation of the monarchy in 1946, a new

constitution was enacted and published in the official gazette in February 1947. The constitution stated that the legislative powers were invested in the King and parliament which consisted of the Lower House of Parliament and the Upper House (Senate). The senate will have members appointed by a royal decree, while deputies of the Lower House will be elected by the public, the constitution stipulated.

In 1947, a new election was held and the parliament's mandate lasted until 1950 when a decision was taken to dissolve it as a result of the proclamation of unity between the East and the West Banks of Jordan. This was followed by a general election, and in 1952 a new constitution for Jordan was announced stating that the nation is the source of all powers and that the prime minister and cabinet members are all responsible to parliament, as a whole or in their individual capacity.

In 1954 new amendments were introduced to the constitution. These included among others new powers for parliament to submit a motion of confidence in the cabinet or a cabinet member, and requires each ministry to present parliament within 30 days with a statement so as to acquire the parliament's confidence and approval. The amendments also provided for the government to resign within one week after parliament

had been dissolved and a caretaker government will be appointed to supervise the election of the new parliament.

Occupation of 1967

Parliamentary life in Jordan lasted until 1967, the year of the West Bank's occupation. In view of the Israeli occupation, no new elections were held and the last parliament which had been elected in April 1967 lasted until 1971.

In 1972, it was decided to extend the Lower House's mandate for one more year and in 1973 a similar decision was taken for another two-year extension.

In 1974, the Arab summit in Rabat adopted a resolution recognising the Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO) as the sole legitimate representative of the Palestinian people and approved the formation of a Palestinian government in the West Bank after the end of the Israeli occupation of that territory.

In the light of the Rabat's resolution, parliamentary life in Jordan was suspended and new amendments were introduced to the country's constitution. In a session held on Nov. 10, 1974, parliament granted King Hussein the power to postpone elections in the country in view of the compelling circumstances under which the country was living.

In 1976, parliament introduced another amendment to the constitution granting itself the power to reconvene in an extraordinary session for introducing amendments to the constitution under paragraph five of the constitution's 73rd article.

A 1973 amendment to the constitution stated: "Should a deputy seat fall vacant by death or resignation or other reasons, by-elections should be held within two months to fill the seat. If the seat is in the senate, a new senator will be appointed. The mandate of the new members will last until the end of the house's mandate. If however, a seat fell vacant under very difficult circumstances rendering by-elections impossible, parliament will elect another member to represent the same constituency within 30 days of being informed of the vacant seat."

Parliamentary life remained suspended in Jordan until 1978 when King Hussein sent a message to Prime Minister Mudar Badran calling for the enactment of a temporary law forming the National Consultative Council (NCC) to serve temporarily in place of the suspended parliament. In his message, King Hussein stressed that the council will by no means serve as an alternative to parliament which will resume its functions when circumstances permit. The royal message outlined the duties and responsibilities of the NCC,

which included giving advice and assistance to the government, debating public policies, reviewing legislations and laws enacted by the executive authorities and other essential activities that serve the higher public interests.

On April 20, 1978, the first consultative council was formed under the chairmanship of Mr. Ahmad Al Lawzi, now chief of the Royal Court. The council grouped 60 members who were appointed by a royal decree. The second NCC was formed in 1980 under the chairmanship of Ahmad Al Tarawneh (now speaker of the Senate) and the third NCC was in April 1982 under the chairmanship of Suleiman Arar. The last NCC grouped 75 members representing a cross-section of the Jordanian people.

Calls for participation

Under the mandates of the three councils, there had arisen a growing feeling among the public for the need to expand the basis of public participation in the country's decision-making process and in shouldering public responsibility. This has prompted many citizens to search for a new formula for resuming parliamentary life.

In Nov. 1983, King Hussein told a Kuwaiti newspaper that parliament will reconvene soon and in

December Prince Hassan said that King Hussein's call for a resumption of parliamentary life in Jordan is a call on all Jordanians to take part in shouldering responsibilities in development, education, and other aspects of life in the country.

Division of seats

In accordance with the parliament law of 1967, there must be 60 members in the house of deputies representing both banks, and the law assigned the countries constituencies and parliamentary seats as follows:

1. Amman region (including Madaba and Jerash) will have eight members of whom six should be Muslims, two Circassians (also Muslims) and two Christians.
2. In Salt, three deputies (two Muslims and one Christian).
3. In Madaba, One Muslim deputy.
4. The Irbid region will be represented by six deputies (five Muslims and one Christian).
5. The Jerash region will have one Muslim deputy.
6. The Karak region will be represented by three Muslims and One Christian.
7. Tafleeh will be represented by one Muslim deputy.
8. Ma'an will be represented by two Muslim deputies.
9. The bedouins in Jordan will

have three representatives in the Lower House.

In the West Bank:

10. Jerusalem will be represented by five deputies (three Muslims and two Christians).
11. The Bethlehem region will be represented by two Muslims and two Christians.
12. Hebron will be represented by five Muslim deputies.
13. The Nablus region will have six Muslim deputies.
14. The Jenin region will be represented by three Muslim deputies.
15. The Tulkarm region will be represented by three Muslim deputies.
16. Ramallah will be represented by four deputies (three Muslims and one Christian).

The quorum required

In accordance with the parliament law, a quorum will be considered in effect if 41 deputies were present at any session. In order to have a quorum for Monday's session at least nine deputies from the West Bank should be present, since 32 members are currently present in the East Bank.

The deputies of the Lower House are:

Jammu, Riyad Al Miffeh, Mohammad Minwer Al Hadid (dead), Khaled Al Haj Hassan, Rifat Al Mufit, Farah Abu Jaber, Musa Abu Al Ragheb, Fuad Qaish.

Bisharah Ghassib (dead), Mohammad Al Khashman (dead), Abdul Karim Al Kayed (dead), Miffeh Oudetallah, Ya'qoub Moummar, Rizk Al Batayneh, Mohammad Al Haj Abdullah, Na'im Tal Fadi Al Dalqamouni (dead), Abdullah Al Shreideh.

Ramadan Hijeh, Sudki Al Ja'abari, Mohammad Othman Abu Sabha, Ismail Hijazi, Halcz Abdul Nabi, Abdul Ra'ouf Al Fares, Abdul Qader Saleh, Abdul Karim Mfaddi, Taher Al Masri, Saleh Abdul Kader Al Daman, Hafzi Mafhees, Maher Irsheid, Fawzi Jarrar (dead), Mohammad Taher Kilani (dead), Mohammad Al Yunes (dead), Khaled Al Fayyad, Sharif Al Qubbaj, Qassim Rimawi (dead), Ali Al Ramahi, Sami Judeh, Issa Aql, Salman Al Qudab, Jalal Marzouq Al Qnlab, Abdul Wahhab Al Tarawneh, Imran Al Ma'ayta (dead), Saha Al Akashe (dead), Yusuf Al Azm, Sa'oud Al Yadi, Akel Al Fayez, Faisal Ibn Jazi, Emil Ghouri, Muhyeddin Al Hussini, Amin Ma'raj, Misbah Al Kazimi, Mohammad Dhweib (dead), Hanna Bannoura, Edward Khamis, Musa Abdeh (dead), Wahid Al Orau (dead), and Ali Abu Elizz.



Kamel Dreikat



Akel Al Fayez



Ismail Hijazi



Sami Judeh



Faisal Ibn Jazi



Taher Al Masri



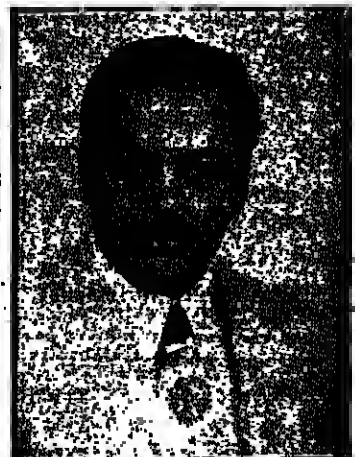
Ya'qoub Muammam



Abdul Qader Saleh



Rizk Al Batayneh



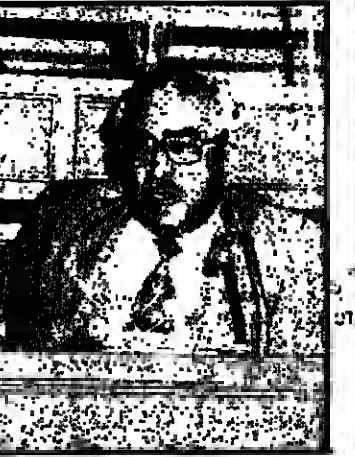
Maher Irsheid



Muhyeddin Al Hussein



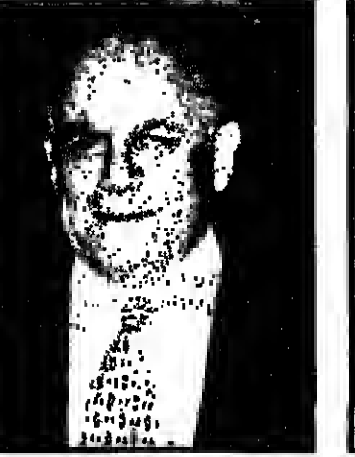
Abdul Baqi Jammu



Khaled Al Fayyad



Abdul Ra'ouf Al Fares



Riyad Al Miffeh



Musa Abu Al Ragheb

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Lillee ends test career in style

SYDNEY (R) — Australian fast bowler Dennis Lillee ended his test career in style Friday when he took a wicket with his final ball to set his team up for a 10-wicket victory over Pakistan in the fifth and final cricket test here.

Lillee took the last four wickets to finish with four for 88 as Pakistan crumbled to 210 all out after starting the day at 47 for one leaving Australia to score just 35 runs to clinch the series 2-1.

The 34-year-old Lillee, who announced his retirement during the match, finished his test career with 355 wickets from 70 tests and appropriately shared the limelight with his great compatriot Greg Chappell who on Thursday ended his international career with a century and a record number of test runs for an Australian.

Australia's best bowler Friday, though was again Lillee's fast bowling partner Geoff Lawson who captured four for 48 to finish with nine for 117 in the match and deservedly win the Man of the Series award.

Pakistan began disastrously

Friday when Lawson bowled Mudasar Nazar for 21 in his first over. Qasim Omar followed soon after when he edged a Lawson outswinger to Rodney Marsh after he had scored 56 and Marsh was again in action when he caught Zaheer Abbas for 33 off Rodney Hogg just before lunch.

Pakistan collapsed completely after lunch when captain Imran Khan, playing purely as a batsman, gave Marsh yet another catch off Rodney Hogg to be dismissed for seven.

Lillee then wrapped up the tail when the talented Javed Miandad who hit a brave 60.

Australian openers Kepler Wessels and Wayne Phillips hit off the runs in only five overs and the Australians deservedly took the

series. Later Australian skipper Kim Hughes said the result should convince people about his captaincy ability.

"Today was the best way of saying thanks to Greg Chappell and Dennis Lillee for all the inspiration they have been over the years," he said.

Imran had no excuses for his team's performance and he said Pakistan had been beaten by a better team.

He said the difference between the two sides was the Australian bowling line-up which could dismiss a side twice in a match.

But he said Pakistan should still have drawn the match.

"The ball was not doing that much except perhaps in the first hour. We did not bat well enough," he said.

Pakistan now go into the triangular one-day series with Australia and the West Indies with their first match against Australia in a day-night game at the Sydney Cricket Ground next Tuesday.

All Along named female turf champion

NEW YORK (R) — French filly All Along, which established a single-season prizemoney record for a filly or mare last year, took the 1983 Eclipse Award as Female Turf Champion on Thursday.

Devil's Bag, undefeated in five starts, was named champion two-year-old colt or gelding. Slew O' Gold was picked as the top three-year-old colt or gelding and John Henry was selected male turf champion.

Other Eclipse Award champions were: Althea (two-year-old filly), Heartlight (three-year-old filly), Bates Motel (older mare horse), Ambassador of Luck (older filly or mare), Chinook Pass (sprinter), Flatterer (steplechase horse).

Angel Cordero won the award as the top jockey for the second successive year, while 71-year-old Woody Stephens was voted trainer of the year.

All Along, Devil's Bag and Slew

O' Gold are now top contenders for Horse of the Year, which will be announced on Feb. 3.

All Along, owned by international art dealer Daniel Wildestein, had a phenomenal year, winning four major races in three countries on two continents within a six-week span.

The four-year-old filly won the Prix de l'Arc de Triomphe in Paris, the Rothmans International in Toronto, the Turf Classic in New York and the Washington, D.C. International — beating male competition in all three races.

Should All Along win the Eclipse Horse of the Year award, the French filly would become the first turf race to win the title. All Along's winnings for the year totalled \$2,138,963.

Votes for the Eclipse Awards are cast by the Thoroughbred Racing Associations, the daily Racing Form and the National Turf Writers' Association.

Lendl beats Wilander in Chicago tennis

CHICAGO (R) — Ivan Lendl of Czechoslovakia beat Sweden's Mats Wilander 6-4, 7-5 in the third round robin stage to remain undefeated in the \$250,000 Tennis Challenge of Champions Thursday.

Lendl, down 4-1 in the first set, ripped off eight successive games to win the set and the first three games of the second. Wilander battled back with four consecutive games but could not keep up the pressure.

"I played good in the beginning but then I had a down period. Suddenly he was just breaking my services all the time," Wilander said.

In other matches, Jimmy Arias of the United States beat Poland's Wojtek Fibak 5-7, 6-3, 6-2 and Jimmy Connors defeated fellow American Gene Mayer 7-5, 7-5.

Friday's matches will determine the semifinals. Mayer, the only player who has lost two matches and therefore cannot qualify, meets Andres Gomez of Ecuador. Lendl plays Arias and Connors faces Yannick Noah of France. Only Connors and Lendl are undefeated.

Bonder defeats ailing Jaeger

WASHINGTON (R) — American Lisa Bonder, the 36th-ranked player in the world, defeated an ailing Andrea Jaeger, the tournament's top seed, in just 33 minutes Thursday night to win the second round of a women's tennis tournament here.

Bonder, who won 6-0, 6-1, played a highly effective groundstroke game, but also benefited from numerous unforced errors by Jaeger, who said later that she felt ill during the match.

Bonder broke Jaeger's serve five times during the match while Jaeger straight games enabling her to advance into the quarterfinals.

Pam Casale also advanced to the quarterfinals with an upset victory over fourth-seeded Australian Wendy Turnbull. Casale, world-ranked 38th, eliminated Turnbull 6-4, 6-7, 6-4, playing almost entirely from the baseline.

Ligier announces new Formula One racing car

PARIS (R) — Ligier have unveiled their new Renault-powered Formula One racing car and hope the latest model, plus a fresh driver line-up, will lead them back to Grand Prix success.

The Ligier JS23 shares much in common with the new Lotus 95T which also uses the Renault 1.5 litre V6 turbocharged engine.

Ligier struggled with conventional Ford Cosworth engines last season and their drivers, Jean-Pierre Jarier of France and Raul Boesel of Brazil, did not gain a single World Championship point.

The team's 1984 challenge will be headed by Italian Andrea de Cesaris, with Alfa Romeo last season, partnered by newcomer Francois Hesnault, the first Frenchman to enter Formula One since Alain Prost in 1980.

De Cesaris, 24, finished second in last year's West German and South African Grands Prix while Hesnault, 27, competed in Formula Three. Reserve driver is another Frenchman, Michel Ferté.

Ligier says safety and traction will be improved because the driver will sit further back in the car. The Cosworth engine used in the old Ligier JS21 mustered 500 brake horse-power, whereas the new turbo-powered unit is capable of 660 and more.

The French team has had little to encourage them since the vintage years of 1979-81 when they were well served by French trio Jacques Laffite, Patrick Depailler and Didier Pironi.

South African inside women's 5,000m world record

STELLENBOSCH, South Africa (R) — South African Zola Budd clocked an unofficial 15 minutes 1.95 seconds for the women's 5,000 metres here Thursday night — more than six seconds inside the world record 15:18.26 for the non-championship distance set by American Mary Decker in 1982.

Budd, 17, running barefoot as usual, led throughout in the difficult windy conditions and lapped the entire field.

Afterwards the fragile 1.56 metres-tall athlete, who has just finished her final school examinations, had nothing to say as she slipped on the running shoes for which she has so little use.

Dubbed "the Mighty Atom" by the South African press, Budd lives on a farm in the central Orange Free State with her parents.

She tackled 5,000 metres for the first time only a year ago, clocking 15:35.61.

An International Amateur Athletic Association (IAAF) spokesman said Friday that IAAF will not recognise Budd's record. "I haven't decided yet what to do," she said in a recent interview. "I'm not sure whether to go to the U.S. or go to university here."

Her coach, schoolteacher Pieter Labuschagne, hopes she will stay home for the time being. "She is very shy. She would not cope on her own overseas," he said.

South Africa has been suspended from the IAAF because of its apartheid policies and the IAAF spokesman confirmed, Friday, that the association would not recognise any world record by a South African athlete.

She tackled 5,000 metres for the first time only a year ago, clocking 15:35.61.

Richard Lovell, a spokesman for Holmes, said the fight would be promoted by a Dallas-based television network.

Tate, 27, who has a 30-2 record, won the WBA title when he scored a 15-round decision over Gerrie Coetzee of South Africa in October of 1979. He then lost the title in his first defence when he was knocked out by Mike Weaver in March 1980.

Holmes, 34, unbeaten in 45 professional fights, relinquished the WBC title last December because of a dispute over the purse he was to have received for a mandatory title defence against top-ranked Greg Page.

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European rivals rush to copy revolutionary Soviet bob

IGLS, Austria (R) — At least three European teams are copying the revolutionary design of the new Soviet two-man bob in time for next month's winter Olympics, West German team sources said Friday.

The sources, attending a Nations Cup meeting here, said plans of the bob obtained by Swiss Olympic champion Erich Schaefer had been acquired by the Italian team who expected to develop their own version in time for the games.

Swiss team officials have already said they will produce two new Soviet-style bobs next week and the sources said Austria's Peter Kienast plans to test a similar model soon.

The torpedo-shaped Soviet bobs caused a sensation when they were unveiled in West Germany in November and have helped Soviet teams — previously ranked as outsiders — to a number of course records.

The Soviet reaction to this whirl of activity among rival teams was muted. Vkhail Basov, head of the Soviet sports committee's luge and bobsleigh department, commented: "It's not forbidden to copy — let them do it."

The Swiss team said their two sleds for the Sarajevo Games would cost 40,000 francs (\$18,000) to build.

The individualistic Schaefer, who won the two-man bob gold medal in Lake Placid four years ago, decided to go it alone and commission his own sled from a design he obtained.

The West German sources said Schaefer had asked an Italian pilot to take the plans to the Corina d'Ampezzo works of constructor Sergio Storpacs, who is in dispute with the Italian team.

But they said that Storpacs' main rival, Oskar Podar, had acquired photocopies of the plans and was now building Soviet-type versions for the Italian team.

The Austrian Kienast helped Schaefer with the designs and will get his own new bob next week, the sources said.

The sport's international governing body FIBT has said the Soviet bob is legal but West German two-man bob champion Anton Fischer Friday called for restrictions on design to give all competitors an equal chance.

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Soviets unhappy with Olympic safety guarantees

WEST BERLIN (R) — A leading member of the Soviet National Olympic Committee said in an interview published Thursday he was unhappy with safety arrangements for Soviet sportsmen taking part in this summer's Olympic Games in Los Angeles.

Alexander Sereda, first deputy of the committee, told the Soviet

news agency Novosti that the Soviet Union would only take part if the Olympic Charter was strictly adhered to and if its sportsmen's safety was fully guaranteed.

"Until now we have been informed that the organising committee of the Olympic Games cannot for the present fully guarantee the safety of the sportsmen," he said.

Sereda, a member of a Soviet delegation which recently visited Los Angeles, added that the Soviet Union was actively preparing for the games and had no intention of boycotting them.

But he said his delegation was concerned by "anti-Soviet and anti-Socialist" moves with California and throughout the United States to get the Soviet team banned from the games.

Sereda said the Soviet Union would oppose moves towards professionalism and expressed his concern that the United States was trying to bring South Africa back into the Olympic fold.

FIFA president says Soviets have good chance of staging World Cup

MOSCOW (R) — International Football Federation (FIFA) President Joao Havelange said Friday the Soviet Union had an excellent chance of staging the 1990 World Soccer Cup, the Soviet news agency TASS reported.

Havelange told a press conference in Leningrad the stadiums he had seen there and in Kiev and Minsk fully met the international soccer body's requirements but

that a decision on the venue for the World Cup would not be made until May.

Havelange said he would also be inspecting stadiums in Moscow, and the Soviet Union's southern republics of Georgia and Armenia.

Other countries which had applied to stage the 1990 competition were Britain, Greece and Italy, he said.

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Stone's visit to Nicaragua overshadowed by fighting

MANAGUA (R) — U.S. special envoy Richard Stone ended a whirlwind tour of Central America with a one-day visit Thursday to Nicaragua, overshadowed by fierce fighting between the leftist Sandinist government and U.S.-backed guerrillas.

As Mr. Stone met Nicaraguan Foreign Minister Miguel d'Escoto, the state radio reported that U.S.-armed and financed rebels had launched a two-hour rocket and mortar attack on a northern Nicaraguan port. One person was killed, eight were injured and two buildings were destroyed.

The report said the attack on the northeastern port of Potosi, 150 kilometres from Managua, was the third this week.

Opponents of the Sandinists who met Mr. Stone earlier told reporters that he probably told the Nicaraguan government that it must negotiate with the insurgents.

But the Nicaraguan government has vowed never to open talks with the guerrillas, whom it regards as supporters of the unpopular dictatorship of the late Anastasio Somoza.

Mr. Stone would not comment on the substance of his discussions, telling reporters only that his talks with junta coordinator Daniel Ortega and Foreign Minister d'Escoto were "detailed, specific, and rather constructive."

But diplomats in Managua said they expected Mr. Stone would have heard fresh protests against Washington's support for the estimated 10,000 right-wing guerrillas, who have stepped up their attacks in recent weeks.

A communiqué released by the Nicaraguan government said: "The talks took place in a cordial atmosphere."

Nicaragua has sent a protest note to Honduras over an attack on Potosi on Tuesday. It also accused U.S. warships of launching two assault craft which attacked strategic fuel installations at Puer-

to Sandino, 500 kilometres west of Managua, on Monday.

Isolating Nicaragua

PANAMA CITY (R) — Nine Latin American foreign ministers met here Saturday to study peace plans for Central America, including proposals aimed at isolating left-wing Nicaragua.

Ministry sources said, "No details of these proposals, by four pro-American countries in the area, Honduras, El Salvador, Guatemala and Costa Rica, were officially available."

Nicaragua itself, viewed by the United States as the source of regional conflict, will be represented at the meeting, as well as the four countries making up the so-called Contadora Group, Mexico, Colombia, Venezuela and Panama.

The Central American proposals were drafted in response to last month's scheme by the Contadora Group based on its widely-approved 21-point peace plan.

The plan provides for a withdrawal of foreign military advisers from the area and an end to the use of one country's territory as a base for aggression against another.

Nicaragua has so far refrained from comment on the four-nation proposals — the latest of at least 20 peace initiatives for Central America since 1980 — but has expressed willingness to sign an agreement based on the Contadora plan.

It was expected to sign such an agreement with four other Central American countries last month, under the auspices of the Contadora Group, but the talks were postponed and the Contadora ministers met alone.

In apparent anticipation of an agreement, the Sandinist government in Nicaragua, viewing last October's American intervention in Grenada as a rehearsal for similar action against Nicaragua, sent home some 1,200 Cuban aid officials and offered to repatriate its mainly Cuban military advisers.

Large-scale U.S. military manoeuvres with the Honduran army and U.S. support for anti-Sandinist guerrillas contributed to Nicaragua's fears.

Nicaragua accuses Honduras of sheltering and aiding the rightist guerrillas and border clashes have raised fears of an all-out war between the two countries.

U.N. defers votes to condemn S. Africa

UNITED NATIONS (R) — The Security Council Thursday night deferred a vote on a resolution strongly condemning South Africa for its latest armed thrust into Angola as efforts continued to try to avert a Western veto.

Despite some slight softening of the original text, the resolution still threatens U.N. sanctions against South Africa if it fails to unconditionally withdraw its troops. The threat of sanctions and other tough language make the draft unacceptable to the United States and Britain and also poses difficulties for France, council sources said.

The three Western powers, along with the Soviet Union and China, have the power of veto.

A vote is expected soon after the council meets again Friday (GMT+1). The latest round of debate began on Wednesday.

Following debate last month, a relatively mild resolution demanding South Africa's withdrawal from Angola won the votes of 14 of the council's 15 members. Only the United States abstained on the resolution, which did not threaten sanctions.

Angola has accused South Africa of launching a new offensive 200 kilometres inside its territory with three motorised infantry brigades, warplanes, tanks and artillery.

Pretoria's representative told the council its troops are hitting guerrillas of the South West Africa People's Organisation (SWAPO) who launch raids into

the neighbouring South African-ruled territory of Namibia (South West Africa).

The debate has been accompanied by seemingly conciliatory gestures by South Africa. Angola and SWAPO. But all have been hedged by apparently unacceptable conditions.

South Africa renewed an offer it made last month for a troop withdrawal, beginning on Jan. 31, provided Angola stops permitting SWAPO attacks against Namibia.

SWAPO seeks ceasefire

UNITED NATIONS (R) — The South West Africa People's Organisation (SWAPO) asked Secretary General Javier Perez de Cuellar Thursday night to arrange a ceasefire between its forces and the South Africans through direct talks.

A message to this effect from SWAPO President Sam Nujoma was delivered to the U.N. chief as the Security Council debated a charge by Angola that South African troops were conducting a big military campaign far inside that country.

Before the council resumed debate, Eliseo de Figueiredo, the Angolan delegate, affirmed his government's willingness to "test" a 30-day truce from Jan. 31, proposed by South Africa.

President Jose Eduardo Dos Santos of Angola said in a letter to Mr. Perez de Cuellar last Saturday that a truce needed SWAPO's agreement also.

Opposition to mount anti-Marcos campaign

MANILA (R) — Leading opponents of Philippines President Ferdinand Marcos Friday responded to his charges that they were disorganised and squabbling by announcing plans to mount a major campaign to oust him from power.

They also left open the possibility of taking part in May's parliamentary elections, which they previously indicated would be boycotted.

Former President Diosdado Macapagal, human rights campaigner Jose Diokno, former Senator Lorenzo Tanada and other opposition leaders said they were starting a "resignation or removal" of Mr. Marcos.

They also told reporters that they were taking steps to ensure a transitional government assumed power should they succeed in ousting the president, who said Thursday the opposition was "a bunch of disorganised, fragmented factions squabbling among themselves" and afraid to take part in the elections for fear of losing.

Mr. Tanada, regarded as the "grand old man" of Philippine politics, said a "preparatory commission" would be set up before the end of the month to direct the anti-Marcos campaign and work out the mechanics of setting up a

transitional government.

Although most of the leaders were vocal supporters of an opposition campaign to boycott the polls, Mr. Diokno said the preparatory commission would decide whether to take part.

"If three-fourths of the members decide to take part, we will cooperate in the interest of opposition unity," he said.

The Union of Democratic Nationalist Organisation (UNIDO), an alliance of 12 opposition parties, has not joined the other leaders. UNIDO has said it will take part in elections if its conditions to ensure they free and honest are met.

Mr. Diokno, who favours a boycott, later told Reuters he thought there may still be a three-fourths majority in the preparatory commission to boycott elections.

The opposition leaders told reporters after signing a document detailing reasons for mounting the campaign that they regarded opposition unity as the key to secure Mr. Marcos' removal.

Mr. Macapagal said however that his Liberal Party stuck to its decision to boycott elections because "no dictator loses elections." But he added he would cooperate if the commission voted for taking part in the elections.

Kampuchean government to celebrate anniversary

BANGKOK (R) — The Kampuchean government celebrates its fifth anniversary Saturday amid predictions of a new offensive against anti-government guerrillas.

The Heng Samrin government still does not fully control Kampuchea following Vietnam's 1979 invasion which installed it, and Thai military and security officials have predicted that a Vietnamese offensive might take place soon after the anniversary.

Hanoi has moved forces to strategic points near the Thai eastern frontier and Thai officials predicted that between 60,000 and 100,000 Kampuchean living in camps would flee across the Thai border during the expected offensive.

In their last military push, Vietnamese troops overran three

major Kampuchean guerrilla camps near Thailand.

The guerrillas, whose rival coalition government of Democratic Kampuchea is still recognised by the United Nations, are planning a public relations campaign on the occasion of the anniversary to try to steal the limelight from Phnom Penh.

Son Sann, leader of the Kampuchean National Liberation Front (KNLF) and prime minister of the resistance coalition will hold a press conference Saturday for foreign correspondents in an area of Kampuchea along the Thai border.

Prince Norodom Sihanouk will arrive in Thailand later this month for a two-week visit and will chair a meeting of his cabinet inside Kampuchea, sources said.

Zhao talks symbolise more stable U.S.-China ties

By William Scally

Reuter

WASHINGTON (R) — Chinese Prime Minister Zhao Ziyang meets President Reagan for talks next week that symbolise a deepening and more stable U.S.-China relationship despite continuing differences over Taiwan.

Mr. Zhao is the highest Chinese official to visit the United States since elder statesman Deng Xiaoping came in 1979 after full diplomatic ties were established. He arrives in Hawaii Saturday and is due to spend the weekend at the historic town of Williamsburg, Virginia, before coming to Washington on Monday.

One U.S. official said the current state of relations did not quite equal the euphoria achieved during the Jimmy Carter administration, but added "it is certainly going up" after traversing a

difficult phase earlier in Mr. Reagan's term. The American leader is due to visit China in April.

Peking is eager to reap the benefit of its U.S. ties to achieve its modernisation goals while Washington has a strategic interest in fostering relations with a Chinese government deeply distrustful of the Soviet Union.

A key factor in improving relations last year was a U.S. decision to ease controls on technology exports to China.

Prospects for such exports are likely to get a further boost during Mr. Zhao's visit with the signing of an industrial and technological cooperation agreement during the course of his talks with Mr. Reagan and his cabinet that start on Tuesday.

A U.S. official said the agreement would lead to a few

Brunei to become member of ASEAN

JAKARTA (R) — Brunei, the tiny, oil-rich sultanate that won full independence from British on New Year's day, will become the sixth member of the Association of South East Asian Nations (ASEAN), Saturday at a ceremony in the Indonesian capital.

A tiny coastal enclave of 200,000 people in northern Borneo dwarfed by its neighbours, Brunei sees membership of ASEAN as the most logical development after regaining control of its foreign policy and defence for the first time since 1888.

Diplomats said Brunei was likely to have an impact on the grouping commensurate with its size, and was expected to follow suit on major foreign policy issues.

The foreign ministers of ASEAN's five founder-nations —

Indonesia, Malaysia, the Philippines, Singapore and Thailand — will meet first Saturday to formally approve Brunei's admission. It will be the last ASEAN meeting at which the sultanate will be only an observer.

The sultan's brother Muda Mohammad Bolkiah, Brunei's newly-appointed foreign minister, will then sign a document committing the fledgling state to the principles of the Bangkok Declaration which established ASEAN in 1967.

Finally, the Brunei flag will be raised alongside those of the founder-nations outside the ASEAN secretariat in Jakarta.

The present sultan, Sir Muda Hassan Bolkiah, broadly shares the pro-Western, non-Communist political views of the ASEAN

countries. But Brunei's political alignments must always to some extent be determined by its geography.

Situated on the northwestern edge of the huge island of Borneo, the former British protectorate is entirely surrounded by the Malaysian state of Sarawak.

Had the former sultan not resisted the idea, it could easily have been part of Malaysia today instead of enjoying, thanks to its oil wealth, the highest income per head in Asia.

In ASEAN, the tiny sultanate becomes in theory not only the political equal of Malaysia, but also of Indonesia, the world's fifth most populous nation and owner of by far the biggest part of Borneo.

Indian opposition leader urges unity

NEW DELHI (R) — Former Foreign Minister Atal Behari Vajpayee Friday called on India's opposition parties to unite to oust Prime Minister Indira Gandhi's government and said disorder and terrorism reflected the state of the country.

With battle lines being drawn up for general elections in the world's largest democracy within the next 12 months, Mr. Vajpayee told his right-wing Hindu Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP) that the government was lurching rudderless from one crisis to another.

The Press Trust of India (PTI) news agency quoted him as saying in his presidential address at the party's national convention in the centrality of India that the next government would be a coalition and the real battle for power would be in the Hindi-speaking heartland of northern India.

In by-elections last month Mrs. Gandhi's ruling Congress (I) Party was badly mauled in the key Hindi state of Uttar Pradesh.

The BJP convention precedes a meeting in Calcutta next week at which opposition leaders will try to forge greater unity for the elections in an attempt to dethrone Mrs. Gandhi.

It is part of a quickening tempo of political activity across India in an election year.

Congress (I) held a meeting of 10,000 party workers in Calcutta last week to set the seal on the main themes for its election campaign. The 66-year-old prime minister has called for a series of further party meetings in the next two months.

She has ruled India since 1966 with a three-year gap from 1977-81.

The BJP was part of the coa-

lition that ousted Mrs. Gandhi in 1977 after her two-year period of emergency rule.

For the coming elections, it has linked up with the rural-based Lok Dal (People's Party). But the opposition still remains deeply divided.

Mr. Vajpayee accused Mrs. Gandhi of doing enormous damage to India's morale by generating a sense of national insecurity through repeated references to outside interference, which were designed to help her project herself as the country's saviour and protector.

Charging that her administration had lost the capacity to govern, he said disorder and terrorism in different parts of the country, including Punjab and the northeast state of Assam, reflected the rudderless condition of the Indian ship of state.

Talks between Ershad, opponents uncertain

DHAKA (R) — Chances of talks between Bangladesh military ruler President Hussain Mohammad Ershad and his opponents became uncertain Friday when a 12-party rightist alliance said the discussions would be meaningless without free political activity.

The alliance leader, former President Khandker Mostaque Ahmed, said "certain preconditions (set by opposition parties, should be fulfilled to create a favourable atmosphere to make the talks meaningful."

He did not say whether he would take part in the talks due to start Saturday.

Opposition parties want Gen. Ershad to lift his ban on political activity, end the military rule, promise early parliamentary elections and release detained politicians.

Earlier, more than 100 political leaders including those in two other alliances of 22 parties rejected Gen. Ershad's invitation for the talks aimed at returning the country to democracy.

They said they could not accept the invitations because the martial law government had deliberately ignored their demands and was trying to hoodwink the people.

Habre to attend reconciliation talks

ADDIS ABABA (R) — Chad President Hissene Habre will attend national reconciliation talks with his opponents opening in Addis Ababa on Monday, sources close to the Organisation of African Unity (OAU) said Friday.

The Chadian leader's presence at the talks had appeared in doubt Thursday when Chad's ambassador to France, Ahmad Allam-Mi, told Reuters in Paris Mr. Habre would attend only if the talks adhered to strict guidelines laid down by the N'Djamena authorities.

The guidelines were aimed at ensuring that Mr. Habre would attend as president of his war-torn country and not on an equal footing with other groups taking part, particularly that led by former President Goukouni Oueddei.

The sources said that the latest information was that Mr. Habre would arrive in Addis Ababa for the negotiations organised by current OAU Chairman Mengistu.

Haile Mariam of Ethiopia.

The talks were initially scheduled to last two days but informed diplomatic sources here said Friday that they were more likely to last five days.

Ethiopian Foreign Minister Goshu Wolde said earlier Friday he was convinced Mr. Habre would attend the talks despite what he called "machinations by certain powers" to discourage him from coming to the Ethiopian capital.

Prospects for better ties emerge after Jaruzelski, Glomp talks

WARSAW (R) — A prospect of closer relations between Poland's Communist rulers and the Vatican has emerged from talks between Prime Minister Wojciech Jaruzelski and Cardinal Jozef Glomp, the Polish primate.

Catholic Church and government sources declined to give details of five hours of discussions between the two men Thursday about Poland's economic and political difficulties and a possible release of political prisoners.

A communiqué stressed their shared alarm over international tensions and the arms race since NATO's deployment of new medium-range nuclear missiles in Europe and Soviet counter-measures.

They agreed that "Poland, as a country which so singularly suffered during the World War II, has

special reason to seek the preservation of world peace, to which further development of contacts between Polish state authorities and the apostolic see can contribute."

The document also expressed satisfaction with Pope John Paul's visit last June "the course of which proved favourable to this country."

Informed sources said the reference to closer contacts between the government and the Vatican could indicate a first step towards a normalisation of diplomatic relations.

The Vatican has never sent a papal nuncio to Communist Poland and moves towards raising the level of contacts in recent years founded in the Solidarity crisis and martial law which was condemned by the Polish bishops.

The meeting between Glomp and Jaruzelski was their first since the papal visit which was widely acclaimed by staunchly Catholic Poles and was followed by an increase in the harassment of the church by the authorities.

Informed sources said before the talks that Glomp intended to press for a release of political prisoners held since the crackdown on Solidarity in 1981.

The government was reported anxious to see church leaders impose stronger discipline on priests who support the banned union and attack Communism from their pulpits.

The communiqué said only that the two men "discussed some essential problems across the range of relations between church and state."



Couple burned at stake

JOHANNESBURG (R) — A man and a woman blamed by tribal leaders for causing a lightning bolt were burned to death at the stake. South African Television reported. The TV service said the couple, one of them a witchdoctor, were immolated in molechane in the black homeland of Lebowa after being judged responsible for the bolt which injured a woman and her daughter. A crowd of about 300 watched the execution, it said. The television added that police have arrested 18 people in connection with the incident.

Beach Boy buried at sea

LOS ANGELES (R) — Beach Boys drummer Dennis Wilson was buried at sea by the U.S. Coast Guard at the direction of President Reagan, the pop group's publicist said. Wilson, 39, drowned while swimming in the Pacific last Wednesday. White House spokesman Larry Speakes said Mr. Reagan had agreed to a request by the Wilson family that Wilson be buried at sea by the Coast Guard although he was never a member of the force or of the U.S. Navy. Nancy Reagan is an admirer of the Beach Boys, whose hits in the 1960s romanticised surfing, sun, cars and young love. Publicist Sandy Friedman said the funeral service was conducted off the coast of southern California.

Thatcher's son linked with heiress

LONDON (R) — A blind date between prime minister's son Mark Thatcher and a Texas oil heiress has blossomed into romance, according to Britain's gossip writers. Photographs of 24-year-old Karen Fortson, described as the daughter of a multi-millionaire oilman, adorned several front pages of the popular papers, and some writers said they heard wedding bells. According to the "Daily Mirror", Thatcher, 31, met Miss Fortson on a blind date three days before Christmas and her father has told a friend: "Expect an announcement soon."

Mayor vetoes pornography

MINNEAPOLIS (R) — Mayor Donald Fraser vetoed a new city ordinance that would have allowed women to sue for damages on the grounds that certain kinds of pornography violated their civil rights. Mr. Fraser said he accepted that pornography degraded women, but said the law approved last week by the city council violated the right of free speech. It could have made it impossible for legitimate bookshops, cinemas and museums to operate legally, he added. The law would have allowed lawsuits against sellers and producers of material presenting women as dehumanised sex objects who enjoy pain or humiliation.

Test-tube quadruplets born

MELBOURNE (R) — The world's first test-tube quadruplets were born Friday at the Royal Women's Hospital in Melbourne. Hospital staff said the four babies were delivered by Caesarian section by Dr. Andrew Spiers, head of the hospital's In-Vitro Fertilisation team, and were all well. The sex of the quads and the name of the 31-year-old mother, a Melbourne woman, were not released. Speaking before the operation, Dr. Spiers said his team implanted four embryos in the woman's womb, a normal procedure aimed at giving women a better chance of becoming pregnant. But the woman was the first to end up with quads, he said.

'1984' criticised in East Germany

EAST BERLIN (R) — East German writer George Seehase has sharply criticised George Orwell's novel "1984", but said its message could be valid if applied to imperialism rather than Communism. Mr. Orwell, with his petty-bourgeois limitations, had deserted the ground of the real class struggle and confused fascism with real Socialism, Professor Seehase said in the Communist Party's Leipzig Volkszeitung.

GOREN BRIDGE

BY CHARLES GOREN

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ENLISTING THE AID OF THE ENEMY

Both vulnerable. North deals.

NORTH
♠ A10
♥ A J 4
♦ A103
♣ K1065

WEST
♠ 542
♥ 765
♦ Q98
♣ Q982

EAST
♠ Q983
♥ Q1098
♦ K652
♣ J

SOUTH
♠ J76
♥ K32
♦ J74
♣ A743

The bidding:

North East South West

1 ♠ Pass 1 NT Pass

3 NT Pass Pass Pass

Opening lead: Two of ♠.

As you might guess from its name, an end play usually occurs late in the play of a hand, after considerable groundwork has been laid. But sometimes an opening leader might, in effect, he end played at trick one. Or declarer might even maneuver an end play at such an early stage.

The auction was routine. North had intended jumping to two no trump had South responded in a suit. So when South chose one no trump as his initial action, North jumped to game.

West's choice of opening

lead cannot be described as a stroke of genius. While North might hold a four-card major suit, South had denied having one. East was therefore an odds-on favorite to have at least one four-card or longer major suit, and West might have tried to hit

partner's suit rather than attack a suit to which the opponents had to have length.

The careless declarer might win the first trick and try finesses in both majors and in clubs for his contract. While the club finesse would succeed and declarer would make three tricks to the suit, both major-suit finesses would fail and declarer would end a trick short.

The thoughtful declarer realizes that, if West's lead is fourth-best (and there is no reason to doubt it), he can claim his contract. All he need do is allow East's jack of clubs to win the first trick. East is end played there and then. If he returns a major suit, he gives declarer a free finesse and an extra trick in that suit. If he leads a diamond, he gives declarer a second trick to diamonds. That, along with three clubs via a finesse, and two in each major suit, proves to be just enough to land the no trump game.

Handwritten signature: "Johnnie 1-50"